

United States European Command Humanitarian Assistance Outreach

Year-End Review
Fiscal Year 2007



Table of Contents

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Executive Summary	i
Humanitarian Assistance Program	ii
Albania	1
Armenia	3
Azerbaijan	4
Benin	5
Bosnia-Herzegovina	7
Botswana	12
Bulgaria	19
Central African Republic	21
Croatia	22
Democratic Republic of the Congo	23
Gabon	25
The Gambia	26
Georgia	27
Ghana	31
Hungary	32
Kosovo	33
Latvia	42
Mali	43
Mauritania	44
Moldova	45
Morocco	51
Namibia	57
Niger	58
Nigeria	61
Poland	64
Republic of the Congo	65
Romania	67
Sao Tome and Principe	69
Senegal	70
Sierra Leone	76
Tunisia	77
Uganda	83
Ukraine	84
United States European Command Headquarters	86
Zambia	87
Information Operations	89
Strategic Communication	90
Points of Contact	91

Executive Summary

The EUCOM Humanitarian Assistance (HA) effort is designed to further the strategic interests of the US Government while helping underserved civilian populations in the EUCOM area of responsibility (AOR). The HA objectives are to:

- Shape the Security Environment
- Provide Access/Influence
- Bolster HN Disaster Response Capabilities
- Set the Example of a Professional Military
- Train US Forces

The EUCOM Humanitarian Assistance effort is comprised of the following programs:

- Humanitarian Civic Assistance (HCA) – Performed by US Military forces as an add-on to a US military deployment or exercise; funds costs of the medical or engineering supplies. Host nation military can work along side of US military. Assistance consists of medical, dental and veterinary care, rudimentary construction/repair of public facilities & basic sanitation systems.
- Excess Property (EP) – Door to door delivery of serviceable excess Government property consisting of vehicles, disaster management supplies, generators, etc.
- Humanitarian Assistance Other (HA-O) – Construction projects, not associated with military operations.
- Medical Endeavor – EUCOM’s HIV/AIDS prevention program to enhance regional stability through sustainable foreign military HIV/AIDS prevention initiatives and partnerships.

EUCOM has a limited number of personnel to execute the HA program. Not all countries have an Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC) or even a Defense Attaché Office (DAO) presence. Currently there are ODCs in 44 of 92 countries and DAOs in 28. Because there is no DoD presence in 19 AOR countries, EUCOM works with other supporting organizations such as:

- CJTF-HOA Civil Military Support Elements (CMSE) in Uganda/Tanzania
- HOA provides Contracting Officers for EUCOM HA in Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda
- SOCEUR provides CMSEs in nine OEF-TS countries
- Contract local technical/engineering support

Working closely with the US Ambassador’s staff, the ODC nominates projects to the Humanitarian Assistance (HA) Branch in the J4 Directorate for review and approval. The HA Branch works closely with the EUCOM Strategy, Policy, and Assessments Directorate (J5) to ensure all projects are aligned with the Commander’s Theater Security Cooperation vision and programs. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency has ultimate responsibility to review and approve projects. Should the project be approved then it would be eligible for funding.

The ODC and the EUCOM staff understand that their specialized resources are not enough to build, furnish, and staff complete facilities. For example, a school requires paper, pens, and books for the students, and qualified teachers must be hired. As appropriate, EUCOM seeks to partner with other USG agencies such as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and non-government organizations (NGO) as needed to provide the missing pieces.

This document may not include all projects completed during FY07. This document was prepared by the Information Operations and Space Division, EUCOM Plans and Operations Center.

Humanitarian Assistance Program

Department of Defense (DoD) humanitarian assistance activities were first authorized by Congress in 1986, essentially to transport DoD excess non-lethal property and privately donated humanitarian assistance and relief material to countries in need. In FY 1996, DoD was permitted to fund a wider variety of HA activities, including using contracts and deployment of U.S. military personnel to conduct specific humanitarian projects. 10 U.S.C. Section 2561 authorizes the program and the Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster and Civic Aid (OHDACA) Appropriation, managed by the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, funds approved projects.

The Humanitarian Assistance Program is designed to shape the military environment and provide relief to people in need. DoD humanitarian assistance supports regional security cooperation strategies by providing access to selected countries and fostering goodwill for the U.S. military. Typical projects include the refurbishment of medical facilities, construction of school buildings, digging of wells, improvement of sanitary facilities, and training of host country personnel in internally displaced persons/refugee repatriation operations and in disaster relief and emergency response planning. The involvement of the military geographical commanders has been key to the design and execution of the projects and the success of the program.

The Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) advises the USD (P) in all program management and execution matters relating to overseas humanitarian assistance activities. DSCA also manages all programs funded by the Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster and Civic Aid (OHDACA) appropriation.

The excess property (EP) program, managed by DSCA, permits DoD to make available, prepare and transport non-lethal excess property to foreign countries when requested by the Combatant Commanders (CoCom). 10 U.S.C. Section 2557 authorizes the EP program while section 2561 authorizes preparation, transportation, and provision of EP to foreign countries.

Through the EP program, DoD donates and distributes property excess to its needs to contribute to US government efforts to avert humanitarian crises, promote democratic development and regional stability and enable countries to recover from conflict. This program can also be used to forestall acute crises and therefore minimize the need to deploy US forces.

Examples of excess property typically provided include clothing, furniture, medical / school equipment and supplies, vehicles, tools, and construction equipment.

Excess property made available for humanitarian relief purposes are transferred from the DoD to the host nation American Embassy, who is responsible for the distribution to the intended recipient (normally a host nation government ministry, a charitable-type organization, or a non-governmental organization (NGO)).

Albania

U.S. Embassy Provides Hepatitis A Vaccine to Children in Shëngjin (27 November 2006)

With a contribution of over \$30,000.00, the United States European Command, through the Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC), funded the second dose of Hepatitis A virus vaccine for children of all ages in the vicinity of Shëngjin area. The vaccine provides protection from Hepatitis A, a viral disease that is often transmitted by contaminated food or water. This will improve the quality of health care service given to the civilian population in the District of Lezhe. The ODC manages the US Department of Defense's Humanitarian Assistance program, providing direct humanitarian assistance to the Albanian people. This program has been active in Albania since 1996, providing supplies and rebuilding schools, medical facilities, developing water projects and many other non-military projects. ODC works closely with Albanian authorities to implement these projects.

U.S. European Command Provides Hepatitis A Vaccines for Zallher Children (12 July 2007)



The United States European Command, through the U.S. Embassy's ODC, donated 500 doses of the Hepatitis A vaccine to the local health clinic for children living in the Zallher area. The vaccine donation is part of ODC's Humanitarian Assistance program. Children of all ages received the inoculation today from medically trained members of the U.S. New Jersey Army National Guard, currently involved in a Unit Level Exchange exercise program with Albanian Armed Forces in Zallher. The vaccine provides protection from Hepatitis A, a viral disease that is often transmitted by contaminated food or water.

U.S. European Command Provides Hepatitis A Vaccines for Bathore Children (July 23, 2007)



The United States European Command, through the U.S. Embassy's ODC, donated 500 doses of the Hepatitis A vaccine to the local health clinic for children living in the Bathore area. The vaccine donation is part of ODC's Humanitarian Assistance program. Children of all ages received the inoculation today from medically trained members of the 352d Special Operations Group of the U.S. Air Force, currently involved in joint exercise training with Albanian Armed Forces. The vaccine provides protection from Hepatitis A, a viral disease that is often transmitted by contaminated food or water.

U.S. Embassy Inaugurates New School in Nenshat, Shkodër (September 24, 2007)



Deputy Chief of Mission Stephen Cristina and Head of the Embassy's ODC Major Larry Harrison, together with local authorities, inaugurated the only school in the village of Nenshat, Shkoder. Albanian officials included school director Rrok Zefi, commune chairman Lek Bibaj, head of the Shkodër Regional Council Gjovalin Kolombi, Prefect of Shkodër Maxhid Cungu and others. The construction of the school, furniture and equipment was made possible through ODC Humanitarian Assistance funds. The building features several classrooms, a kindergarten, a chemistry laboratory, and restrooms. The project cost over \$235,000. The

improved educational facilities will make it possible for children of this area, which includes Nenshat, to have better education opportunities.

Armenia



U.S. and Armenian Doctors Offer Eye and Dental Treatment in Rural Armenia (17 September 2007)

September 18th through the 20th, three U.S. military doctors accompanied by two Armenian military doctors performed eye and dental examinations in the southern Armenian villages of Darbas, Shamb, and Tatev. The focus of their activities was tailored for the children and the elderly. The treatment teams spent one day at each of the villages. The Americans worked with village medical treatment facilities and utilized approximately \$60,000 USD worth of medical supplies and aid in addition to prescribing and then delivering prescription eye glasses to those who were in need of them.

The doctors screened and treated over 300 patients at the three villages. Currently each village possesses an outreach to villagers utilizing visiting physicians that deliver healthcare services at health care posts.

The U.S. Embassy's Office of Defense Cooperation Bilateral Affairs Officer Major Edward G. Keller commented that this initiative marks one of several that are planned for villages in Armenia, and will foster efforts in future healthcare missions for the region.

The U.S. Office of Defense Cooperation in Armenia works to foster U.S. government and industry assistance to Armenia in the defense sphere. The office operates under the authority of the U.S. Chief of Mission in Armenia and the U.S. European Command, located in Stuttgart, Germany.

Azerbaijan



Renovation of one of the Kish school buildings (18 September 2007)

The project was executed through partnership between the ODC and CHF (an NGO supported by the USAID). The labor was provided by the local community and engineering support and oversight came from the CHF.

Benin



Delivery of USEUCOM Humanitarian Assistance Program excess property shipment (22 November 2006)

The delivery of 2 x 40 foot fully loaded sea containers of medical supplies and furniture was held today both at the Maternity of Kpovie and at the Area Hospital of Ouidah. The shipment consisted of:

- 1 - 651 pieces weighing 7,257 kilograms delivered to the Maternity of Kpovie
- 2 - 1017 pieces weighing 7,257 kilograms delivered to the “Hospital de Zone de Ouidah”

Mr. Gratien Aguessy and Mr. Nicolas Médégnon signed the delivery booklet respectively for Hospital de zone de Ouidah and Maternity of Kpovie.



Official donation of excess property, medical materials and three vehicles to CNHU Hospital in Cotonou, Benin (bottom left). Ambassador Gayleatha B. Brown and the Health Minister Flore GANGBO leading the ceremony (bottom right). (4 June 2007)



Medical Material and an ambulance donation ceremony to the Zonal Hospital of Ouidah (7 June 2007)



The Deputy Chief of Mission Richard Holtzapple reading his remarks (7 June 2007)

Bosnia-Herzegovina



European Command Project Helping Reintegrate War-Torn Region (16 March 2007)

MILICI, Bosnia-Herzegovina — U.S. European Command Chief of Staff Marine Maj. Gen. William D. Catto presents his coin to Milici Mayor Zivojin Jurosevic during the March 16 dedication ceremony of the EUCOM-funded water distribution network replacement project. The municipality of Milici constructed this fountain as a memorial for the European Command-funded water project. The humanitarian assistance project, which replaced 6,700 meters of antiquated asbestos pipes with modern plumbing, directly benefits more than 10,000 people.

By Air Force Tech. Sgt. Devin L. Fisher, U.S. European Command Public Affairs.

STUTTGART, Germany — A water distribution network replacement project is helping reconcile historic differences in war-torn Milici, Bosnia-Herzegovina, according to the Chief of the U.S. European Command's Security Cooperation Programs Division. Army Colonel David T. McNevin said the EUCOM humanitarian assistance project, which replaced 6,700 meters of antiquated asbestos pipes with modern plumbing, is a model humanitarian assistance project that directly benefits more than 10,000

people. “This project is helping achieve the United States and NATO goals of reintegrating the war-torn region and encouraging reconciliation of longstanding differences between ethnic groups,” McNevin said. “There are tangible benefits for all sides [involved]. The local community is behind it; this is the type of humanitarian assistance project we want to be involved with across our 92-nation area of responsibility.”

The municipality of Milici unveiled a fountain at the March 16 dedication ceremony as a memorial for the European Command-funded water project. The fountain includes a plaque commemorating the joint EUCOM-Milici efforts to make the project possible. European Command funded the \$700,000 project, but according to McNevin, the EUCOM Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC) in Bosnia-Herzegovina, headed by Army Lt. Col. Walt Kennedy, “deserves the credit for pulling this [project] off.” Once the command approved the money for the project, it was the ODC that was “on the ground” overseeing the competitive bidding process for the construction contract, ensuring the contract remained on schedule while briefing both host-nation and European Command officials on the progress.

The project demonstrates the continuing good will of the American people towards Bosnia-Herzegovina and proof of what U.S. military humanitarian assistance is capable of accomplishing, McNevin said. McNevin said European Command will also help fund a needed water chlorination system and additional plumbing infrastructure for other neighborhoods to link to the new Milici water distribution network. “In Milici, the local government officials were saying and doing the right things to reintegrate the region; to play a small part in this process through EUCOM’s humanitarian assistance program is truly rewarding,” he said, noting European Command carefully selects each humanitarian assistance project. “Milici township is a leader in reintegrating displaced persons from the internecine conflict of the 1990s. This project helps the civic leaders of Milici provide the needed infrastructure not only for the 2,500 displaced persons who have already returned, but provides the capacity for many others to return to the region.”

US Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina Douglas McElhaney visited Vlasenica, Srebrenica and Potocari (12 September 2007)



School reconstruction opening in Vlasenica. Ambassador McElhaney, Republika Srpska Minister of Education, and Mayor of Vlasenica cutting the ribbon to open the reconstructed school.



ODC Chief with children in local traditional costume who performed at the opening of the Vlasenica school in order to express their gratitude to the US.



School project launch in Potocari. Ambassador McElhaney, ODC Chief, School Director and Mayor of Srebrenica Municipality with local school children who will benefit from the project.

Botswana

DOD Humanitarian Projects Help Fight HIV Epidemic (9 May 2007)



MOLEPOLE, Botswana — People tour their new volunteer AIDS counseling and testing center, which opened May 9. The center is one of five other centers aimed at mitigating the effects of the HIV virus. In addition to the counseling and testing centers, the DOD is helping build orphan daycares and youth centers for orphans and children of all ages. According to recent estimates, 17.1 percent of Botswana's 1.7 million people are HIV-positive. (Department of Defense photo by Air Force Master Sgt. James Clark)

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald, 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs.

MOLEPOLE, Botswana (AFNEWS) — One of five volunteer counseling and testing centers aimed at mitigating the effects of the HIV virus opened here May 9.

Two U.S. Air Forces in Europe Airmen assisted with this project funded by the U.S. Department of Defense's Office of Defense Cooperation Humanitarian Assistance Program.

Tech. Sgt. David Roux with the 65th Contracting Squadron, and Master Sgt. James Clark of the 65th Civil Engineer Squadron, both assigned to Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal, traveled to Botswana to inspect the finished project and assist in the selection of a contractor for the next center. This was Roux's third visit to the country.

"I did not know what to expect the first time I visited," the sergeant explained. "But after visiting with many of the children and seeing the living conditions in many of the villages, I realized how much hope we are giving these people.

"The children do not know anything but suffering and death in many of these places," he said. "Without the support of our government and the Bill Gates Foundation, many of these children would never see any hope in the future as the average life span for men in Botswana is only 38 years old."

In addition to the counseling and testing centers, the DOD is helping build orphan daycares and youth centers, which provide day care, counseling, pre-school and after-school programs for orphans and children of all ages.

Roux said the projects will provide care and educate the country's population in an effort to have an HIV-free generation by 2016.

"Most of the people do not know if they have the virus and continue to spread it to others," he said. "The after school centers are important because the children in these programs will be some of the parents of the HIV-free generation. Without proper care and education, the cycle would continue."

Roux said he feels as though he's become a part of a project bigger than himself.

"I always knew that being in the Air Force was more than being a warrior against terrorism and other war-like missions," he said. "We are also warriors against the natural enemies of life such as HIV, famine and disasters. Every time I traveled to Botswana, I believe I changed someone's opinion of the United States and what we stand for ... hope of a better life."

In August, Clark visited Botswana to inspect the construction of the first three volunteer counseling and testing centers and to assist in the selection of the contractor for the two remaining centers.

"These trips have really opened my eyes to some of the good things the U.S. military is doing to lend a helping hand to people around the world," Clark said. "The projects in Botswana are just a small portion of the humanitarian work we're doing to help the people of Africa."

According to recent estimates, 17.1 percent of Botswana's 1.7-million people are HIV-positive.

USEUCOM MEDCAP 2007 Event - Rwanda / Botswana



Medical team sees nearly 1,500 Rwanda, Botswana patients

LUKOLE CAMP, NGARA, Rwanda — Air Force Capt. Christie Barton, from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, measures the eye pressure of a Rwandan patient inside a tent at the returnee camp here Dec. 8, 2006, during a U.S. European Command Medical Civil Assistance Program event at the Sir Seretse Khama Barracks. MEDCAPs are designed to provide medical and dental outreach to local civilian populations within the command's 92-nation area of operation. By interacting with foreign military forces and exposing local civilian populations to positive contacts with U.S. military personnel, the United States hopes to strengthen counter-terrorism capabilities. (Department of Defense photo by Air Force Maj. Monica Selent) Release Date: Jan 05, 2007

By Tech. Sgt. Devin L. Fisher, U.S.
European Command Public Affairs

STUTTGART-VAIHINGEN, Germany — A withdrawn elderly man entered the makeshift optometry clinic tent in Rwanda hunched over nearly crawling so he could see the ground and avoid any obstacles on his way to the exam chair. But he walked out standing tall with a grin from ear to ear.

“It was like he was a different person,” said Air Force Capt. Christie Barton, an optometrist with the 435th Aeromedical Squadron, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Barton recalled the strong pair of spectacles weren’t attractive and barely fit, but “his simple smile said it all.”

Barton, who was part of a five-member medical team that saw 1,469 patients in Rwanda and Botswana from Dec. 3-17, to this day still isn’t sure if the patients or the providers gain more from the experience.

The Medical Civil Assistance Program, or MEDCAP, is one of several events that are a part of the U.S. European Command Security Cooperation Division’s Humanitarian and Civic Assistance Program.

MEDCAPs are designed to provide medical and dental outreach to local civilian populations within the command's 92-nation area of operation.

The Humanitarian and Civic Assistance Program provides the funding which allows the military medical teams to serve the local community by offering free basic medical and dental care for villagers. U.S. Embassy personnel select the locations and inform the villagers of the event. By interacting with foreign military forces and exposing local civilian populations to positive contacts with U.S. military personnel, the United States hopes to strengthen counter-terrorism capabilities. Winning the 'hearts and minds' of the locals with these MEDCAPs is part of European Command's ongoing Theater Security Cooperation strategy.

The goal of this MEDCAP was to familiarize the Rwanda and Botswana militaries with the programs, procedures and concepts for managing U.S. military preventive medical practices and deployed medical operations, said Air Force Lt. Col. Vince Gill from the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Surgeon General's Office who served as the team lead.

The USAFE team conducted medical exchange seminars at the Kanombe military hospital in Kigali, Rwanda, inside a tent at the Returnee Camp on the Tanzanian border, and at the Sir Seretse Khama Barracks in Gaborone, Botswana. The dental topics included expeditionary dentistry, soft tissue injuries, diseases of the mouth, oral hygiene and pediatric dentistry while optometry topics focused on expeditionary optometry, causes of blindness and diseases of the eye. Additional seminars discussed medical operations planning, infection control, field sanitation and hygiene, triage, patient evacuation and Self Aid and Buddy Care.

“The next step is conducting interoperability clinics with the host nation medical personnel to demonstrate implementation of the topics covered during the seminars,” Gill said. The dental services are primarily limited to exams, extractions, simple surgical procedures, treatment for oral infections and oral hygiene education while optometry services include exams, treatment for infections and eyeglasses, if required.

“The missions were very productive and valuable for us,” Gill said. “We saw many cases of disease typically only seen in books.”

HIV/AIDS Voluntary Counseling and Testing Center, Molepolole, Botswana



COMUSAFE and the Ambassador (28 February 2007)

Tebelopele Voluntary Counseling and Testing Center opens in Molepolole

MOLEPOLOLE, Botswana, Africa — The official dedication marking the opening of the Tebelopele Voluntary Counseling and Testing Center (VCTC) is scheduled to take place here Wed., Feb. 28, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. Katherine Canavan, United States Ambassador to Botswana; Gen. William F. Hobbs, U.S. Air Forces Europe commander; and Kgosi Kgari Sechele III, Bakwena Paramount Chief will conduct the ceremony. The project was made possible through donations from the U.S. Department of Defense, European Command. The Defense Department's Office of Defense Cooperation Humanitarian Assistance program has provided over Pula 1,405,000 for the construction of the center. The Molepolole VCTC is the first of five centers in a \$1.45 million emergency humanitarian assistance project to be completed by the end of this year. Additional centers will be located at Mochudi, Lobatse, Maun and Francistown. The Molepolole VCTC is the eighth center out of 12 VCTCs that the Department of Defense will construct in Botswana. The collective cost for all of the centers is about \$3 million. The program, which started in 2001, was created to provide counseling and testing centers in every major population area in Botswana. The center will serve the 70,000 people in Molepolole as well as thousands from the surrounding area. The center will be staffed by Tebelopele, a nongovernmental organization initially created by the U.S. government and funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.



Rear Admiral Lyden, Ambassador Canavan, and Queen Seingwaeng of the Bakgatla Tribe unveil the plaque at the Mochudi VCTC dedication (30 April 2007)

Tebelopele Voluntary Counseling and Testing Center Opening in Mochudi

MOCHUDI , Botswana, Africa — The official dedication marking the opening of the Tebelopele Voluntary Counseling and Testing Center (VCTC) takes place here, April 30, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. Katherine Canavan, U.S. Ambassador to Botswana; Rear Adm. Michael Lyden, U.S. European Command security assistance and logistics director; and Mma-Seingwaeng, Mohumagadi of the Bakgatla Ba Ga Kgafela will participate in the ceremony. The project, which cost about \$213,000, is made possible with funding from the U.S. European Command's Office of Defense Cooperation Humanitarian Assistance program. The Mochudi VCTC is the ninth center out of 12 to be completed in a multi-year, \$3 million project, which began in 2001 and is scheduled for completion by the end of this year. This year's projects alone have brought an estimated \$1.45 million in emergency humanitarian assistance to Botswana. One center is already operational in Molepolole and additional centers will be located at Lobatse, Maun and Francistown. The program was created to provide counseling and testing centers in every major population area in Botswana. The Mochudi center will serve the people of Mochudi and the surrounding area. The center will be staffed by Tebelopele, a nongovernmental organization initially created by the U.S. government and funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

Africa Command Well Intended - US Envoy

By Thabo Chivane
Staff Writer

The establishment of the United States Africa Command will be a unique military command that would incorporate representatives from other US government agencies, such as the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

US ambassador Katherine Canavan said this at the official opening of Lobatse Tebelopele Voluntary Counseling and Testing Centre last week.

Canavan said the reasons for its (US Command) establishment has been greatly misunderstood in southern Africa. She said the agencies would not have representatives on the Africa Command so the military could direct their operations but that the US Department of Defence "can better support efforts to improve conditions in Africa by promoting economic development, combating disease, and responding to natural disasters and famines".

Through the efforts of Africa Command the Americans "hope that in the coming years, buildings such as this, will be common across Africa," she said of the P1.5 million Tebelopele structure.

The US envoy added that through President George W. Bush's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Washington has provided P170 million in support for people of



Katherine Canavan

Botswana. She said the support was through providing counselling, care, and medicine, amongst others, to help combat the HIV epidemic.

Canavan said that the Department of Defence Humanitarian Assistance Programme, which is working with the Rotary Club, has constructed orphan day care and youth centres in Molepolole and Mogadishu for over 800 orphans and vulnerable children of all ages.

She emphasised the need for people to test and know their status.

Area Member of Parliament (MP) Nehemiah

Modubule said the counselling and testing centre in Lobatse was opened in January 2002 and had by December last year, served 15, 019 clients. He said 11, 209 of them were first-time testers.

Modubule said the overall prevalence rate of HIV infection has been declining from its highest of 38 in every 100 in 2003 to 18 percent in every 100 by end of last year.

He challenged men to invalidate the notion that men do not go for tests, saying men were known to be courageous. Modubule said that people should put the Tebelopele facility to full place. He said that couples should avoid getting

infected or re-infection. "Always use a condom correctly or abstain, it is possible," he said.

"I have tested and I know my status. It is my own affair and I am not compelled to go public," he said.

Also present was Assistant Minister of Education Moggie Mbovanyi, who appreciated the gesture by US Defence Department for helping to fund the facility. "Armies are usually associated with wars," she said.

She said that Tebelopele has not been utilised to the maximum because of its previous location in residential areas. The new location is ideal, she said.

Tebelopele Voluntary Counseling and Testing Center Opens in Lobatse (2 August 2007)

Lobatse, Botswana, Africa — The official dedication marking the opening of the Tebelopele Voluntary Counseling and Testing Center (VCTC) is scheduled to take place here Thursday, Aug. 2, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. Katherine Canavan, United States Ambassador to Botswana; and Mr. Nehemiah Modubule, member of Parliament for Lobatse, will conduct the ceremony. The project was made possible through donations from the U.S. Department of Defense, European Command. The Defense Department's Office of Defense Cooperation Humanitarian Assistance program has provided over Pula 1,405,000 for the construction of the center. The Lobatse VCTC is the third of five centers in a \$1.45 million emergency humanitarian assistance project to be completed by April 2008. Two centers are already operational in Molepolole, and Mochudi, and additional centers will be located at Maun and Francistown. The Mochudi VCTC is the tenth center out of 12 VCTCs that the Department of Defense will construct in Botswana. The collective cost for all of the centers is about \$3 million. The program, which started in 2001, was created to provide counseling and testing centers in every major population area in Botswana. The center will serve the people of Mochudi and the surrounding area. The center will be staffed by Tebelopele, a nongovernmental organization initially created by the U.S. government and funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

Bulgaria



Joint Task Force-East "Lion Strike" held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 26 to celebrate the completion of a humanitarian project (3,500 USD) at the Public Retirement Home in Sliven, Bulgaria.

"This retirement home was selected as the beneficiary of both our nations' desires to improve the accommodations of those who have served and sacrificed and are deserving of the best we can provide in their retirement years," said Lt. Col. Bruce Sones, commanding officer, JTF-E "Lion Strike", who spoke at the ceremony. Didi Kostova, a caregiver at the Public Retirement Home in Sliven, Bulgaria, presents traditional

Bulgarian bread to Lt. Col. Bruce Sones, commanding officer, JTF-E "Lion Strike", and U.S. Navy Cdr. Bruce Van Dam, chief of the Joint Visitor Bureau, JTF-E, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 26. The bread, which is dipped in a dry mix of salt and red pepper, is given to travelers when they arrive and when they depart.



LTC Bruce Sones, Commanding Officer, JTF-E "Lion Strike", during a ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 26 at the Public Retirement Home in Sliven, Bulgaria (26 September 2007). SeaBees conducted a humanitarian project at the retirement home to replace broken, single-paned windows with insulated, double-paned windows.

Lion Strike Ends



NOVO SELO, Bulgaria -- As the two-week "Lion Strike" exercise came to a close, U.S. and Bulgarian military personnel joined together for two symbolic ceremonies Sept. 27 and 28. First, Joint Task Force-East celebrated the ribbon-cutting ceremony for a humanitarian project at a kindergarten in Mokren, Bulgaria (approx. 6,900 USD). Eleven U.S. Navy personnel from Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 40, also known as the SeaBees, finished partial renovation of the kindergarten during the exercise. The children from the daycare

center, along with parents, teachers, director, local officials and U.S. and Bulgarian military personnel, crowded the small yard during the ceremony.

"We say in the United States that the children are our future," said LTC Bruce Sones, commanding officer for JTF-E "Lion Strike". "We hope through the efforts of those involved in this project that the improved environment created for teaching the children will contribute to the children's development as they grow and become leaders in your society." The director, Margarita Nikolova, thanked the SeaBees and then presented them with a picture painted by the children, a CD of Bulgarian folk music, a photo of the children and a glass vial filled with Bulgarian soil. Of the soil, she said, "Wherever you go, you know you'll have a piece of Bulgaria with you."

The kids then sang several songs for the audience and the ribbon was cut. But, there was another surprise for the children, a HMMWV full of gifts. All of the Soldiers, sailors and airmen participating in the exercise had contributed money to buy much-needed school supplies and educational toys for the school. "We will maintain what you have done, and promise to continue with improvements," said Emil Enchev, mayor of Mokren. "Hopefully we will continue working together in the future." The next day, all JTF-E "Lion Strike" participants, both U.S. and Bulgarian, came together again, this time to commemorate the end of the exercise during the closing ceremony. During the ceremony LTC Sones and COL Biser Kalinov, Chief of Training, Bulgarian Land Forces, presented certificates of achievement to 14 U.S. Soldiers and 16 Bulgarian soldiers for their efforts during the exercise. "During this training, we had the opportunity to gain military experience from the leading force in NATO - the United States Military, and to show that while representing a small army, the Bulgarian officers, NCOs and soldiers are honorable partners and excellent professionals," said Kalinov, who spoke first during the ceremony. He was followed by Sones, who echoed Kalinov's feelings.

"This closing ceremony does not mark the end of a training opportunity or a farewell to relationships fostered," said Sones. "In our minds, it marks the hopeful commencement of future training opportunities to be conducted between our nations. We can truly say the professionalism and generosity of the Bulgarian Land Forces is unrivaled," he said. "We know the strong relationship between the United States and Bulgaria, as demonstrated during this exercise, will continue to grow, and we look forward to training and serving with you in the years to come."

Central African Republic

Medical Traveling Contact Team, Bangui, Central African Republic (15-23 April 2007)



Dr. Greco with CAR colleague Dr. Frederic.



Group photos with CAR colleagues.



Dr. Barton briefing CAR colleagues on ocular injuries.

This Traveling Contact Team (TCT) was one in a series being conducted by USAFE as an engagement tool which focused on specific desired medical effects in partner countries, conducting didactic exchanges. Topics included medical standards for peacekeeping missions, pandemic influenza, disaster response preparations, dental and optometric emergencies and medical threat assessments. CAR hosts provided three briefings, on the CAR military medical system and the endemic diseases of malaria and amebiasis. A total of 543 patients were seen: 213 optometry, 69 dental and 261 family medicine.

Other significant events included a press conference with the local newspapers and TV station, which resulted in several positive stories. There was also an interview with a representative of Médecins Sans Frontières, a lunch meeting with the US Charge D’Affaires, and tours of the Institute Pasteur and National Reference Laboratory, as well as the Hospital Communautaire.

Croatia



U.S. Donates 1,000 Biological Protection Kits for Avian Flu Detection to Croatia (6 September 2007)

Zagreb, September 6, 2007 -- The Poultry Center, part of the Croatian Ministry of Agriculture, will receive 1,000 personal biological protection kits under the Humanitarian Assistance Program administered by the U.S. European Command and the U.S. Embassy's Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC). Dr. Vladimir Savic, Director of the Center, which is Croatia's designated avian influenza lab, plans to use the equipment, which protects first responders, to test for the avian influenza virus in Croatia. Dr. Savic initiated active monitoring of wild birds and began testing poultry supplies upon request in October 2006. He also initiated collaborative testing for the H5N1 virus in 10 southeastern European countries and started a regional information-sharing network. "The United States is pleased to support Croatia's outstanding efforts in seeking to prevent avian influenza by donating these first response kits," said LTC Greg Scofield Deputy Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation in Zagreb. "We look forward to continued cooperation with Croatia in this effort." The kits will be delivered to the Poultry Center Sept. 7 at 1430 by LTC Scofield, Diana Marsic, ODC's bilateral affairs office manager and Marlene M. Nice, Vice Consul of the U.S. Embassy, Zagreb.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Ministère de la défense du gouvernement américain

Don d'une ambulance à la Clinique Ngaliema

L'ambassadeur des Etats-Unis en République démocratique du Congo, Roger Meece, a remis hier à la Clinique Ngaliema, une ambulance bien équipée, don du gouvernement américain. La remise de ce don est intervenue en présence du ministre de la santé, Zacharie Kashongwe. Ce don s'inscrit dans le cadre de l'exécution du programme d'Assistance Humanitaire et de Biens Excédentaires du ministère de la Défense des Etats-Unis. Pour l'ambassadeur des Etats-Unis en Rdc, ces dons humanitaires de l'armée américaine répondent à un autre principe qui lui est cher. « Il s'agit de l'importance du militaire au service de la population », souligne-t-il.

Roger Meece renforce cette affirmation en ces termes : « Dans une démocratie, la bataille la plus importante que mène une armée, c'est de gagner et de garder le respect de sa population civile. Ce respect provient en majeure partie, à n'en pas douter, du fait que dans toute démocratie la défense nationale est dirigée, en fin de compte, par des civils. Le respect provient également des maintes façons dont ceux en uniforme aident la population civile avec de l'aide et de l'assistance humanitaire ». Réagissant par

rapport à ce don, le ministre de la santé, Zacharie Kashongwe, a lancé un message à l'endroit des utilisateurs de ce don, la Clinique Ngaliema.

Il les a invité à garder cet outil le plus longtemps possible au service de la population kinoise et de le rendre effectivement

Tshamala, médecin-directeur de la Clinique Ngaliema, a adressé des remerciements à l'endroit des Etats-Unis.

Pour lui, l'octroi de cet outil de travail en ce début d'année, symbolise « le début d'une grande coopération avec les Etats-Unis parce que notre population a

les Etats-Unis engagent un geste à l'endroit de cet hôpital. Entre 1940 et 1945, alors que cette clinique s'appelait encore Clinique Reine Elisabeth, le gouvernement américain lui avait fournie de l'aide pour agrandir ses bâtiments 1 et 5. C'est dans ce contexte que l'ambassadeur américain a rappelé que son gouvernement est engagé dans un partenariat durable avec la Rdc dans de nombreux secteurs de coopération à travers l'USAID et le CDC (Centres de Prévention et Contrôle des maladies).

En République démocratique du Congo, le programme d'Assistance Humanitaire et Biens Excédentaires du ministère de la Défense des Etats-Unis a déjà pourvu certaines entités à vocation sociale en matériel médical et scolaires. A ce jour, le montant total de ce programme s'élève à environ 150.000 dollars américains par an.

Depuis 2003, le Bureau de l'Attaché militaire des Etats-Unis a remis ce genre de biens à l'hôpital de Kintambo, à l'hôpital général de référence de Kinshasa, à l'hôpital du Camp Kokolo, au Centre Mère et Enfant et à bon nombre d'écoles et d'ONG de Kinshasa, de Bunia et de Kisangani.

Gypsie Oïssa



L'ambassadeur des Etats-Unis remettant l'ambulance au médecin-directeur de la clinique Ngaliema

disponible vu que la ville de Kinshasa connaît des problèmes sérieux pour le traitement des urgences. « Les unités d'ambulance disponibles et bien équipées comme celui-ci seront de grande utilité pour préserver de nombreuses vies », ajoute-t-il. Au nom des bénéficiaires, le Dr

vraiment besoin de soins de qualité ». A en croire le Dr Tshamala, « en recevant cette ambulance et d'autres dons à la Clinique Ngaliema, nous n'aurons plus de prétexte de dire que nous n'avons pas de quoi soigner les patients de la Rdc ». Pour rappel, ce n'est pas la première fois que

Donation of an Ambulance from the HA Program (20 February 2007)



MEDCAP 5-10 March 07 was a EUCOM funded, USAFE/SG executed Theater Security Cooperation event held in Kinshasa, DRC. The event consisted of a medical exchange seminar and humanitarian medical outreach clinic (pediatrics) in conjunction with the host nation military medical providers. This was an excellent medical exchange for the US and DRC military medical providers. The US providers benefited with a better understanding of tropical diseases, treatment options, medical conditions in a developing country, and expectations of disaster response conditions. The DRC providers were updated on current standards in pediatric emergency cardiology, pediatrics ears/nose/throat, and US deployment medicine operations. The team members did a marvelous job by repeatedly demonstrating flexibility, cultural understanding, professionalism, teamwork, and good humor. They rolled up their sleeves, didn't complain about missed lunches or long hot working conditions, and focused on the mission to learn, teach, and provide care.

Gabon

MEDFLAG 07 Concludes, Leads To Highest Level Of Joint Cooperation Yet (13 July 2007)

By Commander, Naval Forces Europe – Commander, U.S. Sixth Fleet Public Affairs

LAMBARENE, Gabon – Medical training exercise MEDFLAG 07 concluded its 20th anniversary exercise with a closing ceremony here July 13.

MEDFLAG, a medical exercise emphasizing joint training with African nations held annually since 1987, provides realistic training environments where participating forces familiarize themselves with each other's capabilities.

According to Adm. Ben F. Gaumer, Assistant Surgeon General for Total Force Integration and Associate Deputy Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, the exercise has enormous value for both the Navy and the United States.

“Exercises like this are very important to the Navy,” said Gaumer. “It gives people around the world a chance to see what Americans are really like. The Gabonese now have a much better feel for who Americans are.”

The Joint Chiefs of Staff-directed, Navy-led exercise included a team of 65 active and reserve military health care providers and support staff who worked closely with their Gabonese counterparts during training.

MEDFLAG concluded with a medical civic action program (MEDCAPS), with both American and Gabonese exercise participants providing medical treatment to more than 5,000 patients in the area in just a few days.

“This was the first time it was a truly joint effort [with the Gabonese],” said MEDFLAG 07 Officer in Charge Cmdr. Laurie Wesely, a veteran of four previous medical exercises in Africa. “We’ve never done that before where it truly was joint...the decision making was joint.”

Each MEDCAP medical clinic had both American and Gabonese doctors consulting closely together on patient diagnosis and treatment. This year was also the first in which all of the medications available for patients were donated by the Gabonese government.

In the past 20 years, the MEDFLAG has developed partnerships in West and Central Africa, increased interoperability in the medical community and has enhanced Theater Security Cooperation initiatives with nations in the Gulf of Guinea region through joint and combined training.

The Gambia

DOD HIV/AIDS Prevention Program Dedication Ceremony, Yundum Barracks Voluntary Testing and Counseling Clinic, Banjul, The Gambia (23 March 2007)

U.S. Ambassador Joseph Stafford dedicated a recently completed laboratory and HIV counseling and testing facility for the Gambian Armed Forces HIV Prevention Program (GAFHAPP) in a March 23rd ceremony that took place at 9:00 at Yundum Barracks. In addition to the laboratory facility, a vehicle was donated to the GAFHAPP. The donation, valued at over \$69,000, was made possible with financing through the U.S. Department of Defense HIV/AIDS Prevention Program (DHAPP).

The U.S. Embassy's Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC) has been involved with the Gambian Armed Forces HIV Prevention Program since 2005 with funding from DHAPP. Since that time \$269,000 has been provided to help combat HIV in the Gambian military. The program has focused on raising HIV awareness, including methods of transmission and prevention, encouraging service members and their families to use safe sexual practices and to participate in free HIV counseling and testing. DHAPP sponsored events have helped to lay the groundwork for providing confidential counseling and testing services.

DHAPP began activities with GAF in July 2005, with a grant of \$119,000. In the first year of the program over 1,000 soldiers and their spouses participated in HIV sensitizations. In addition, 30 health personnel were trained in voluntary counseling and testing procedures and the GAF Military Band produced an audio cassette with eight songs in local languages about HIV prevention. Eight thousand cassettes were distributed free of charge. GAF also worked with the National AIDS Secretariat to design billboards with military specific HIV prevention messages that have been installed at Fajara Barracks. And, mostly notably, on March 23, GAF will dedicate laboratory facilities at Yundum Barracks that have been renovated and equipped through DHAPP funding. This renovated facility will serve as a voluntary counseling and testing facility as well as provide other medical services.

For the upcoming year, GAF has been allotted another \$150,000 to continuing its HIV prevention activities. The new project plan includes 31 sensitization workshops for military personnel and their families and for purchase HIV testing materials. GAF has already purchased a vehicle to reach remote areas, using DHAPP funds. This will further enable GAF to achieve its goal of reaching 100% of the military with HIV prevention messages and testing services.

This program is part of a larger effort by the ODC to promote cooperation between the American and Gambian militaries. Other programs have included the International Military Education and Training program which sends Gambian military personnel to the U.S. for professional development, and humanitarian assistance programs.

Georgia



First shipment of 9,500 Avian Flu personal protective equipment kits distributed to the Ministry of Interior Emergency Management Department, Ministry of Defense Medical Logistics Section, and the Ministry of Health Emergency Services (May 2007).



The Tbilisi Infant Home Orphanage, Saburtelo supports 105 orphaned mentally challenged and physically handicapped children ages 0-5 years (May 2007).



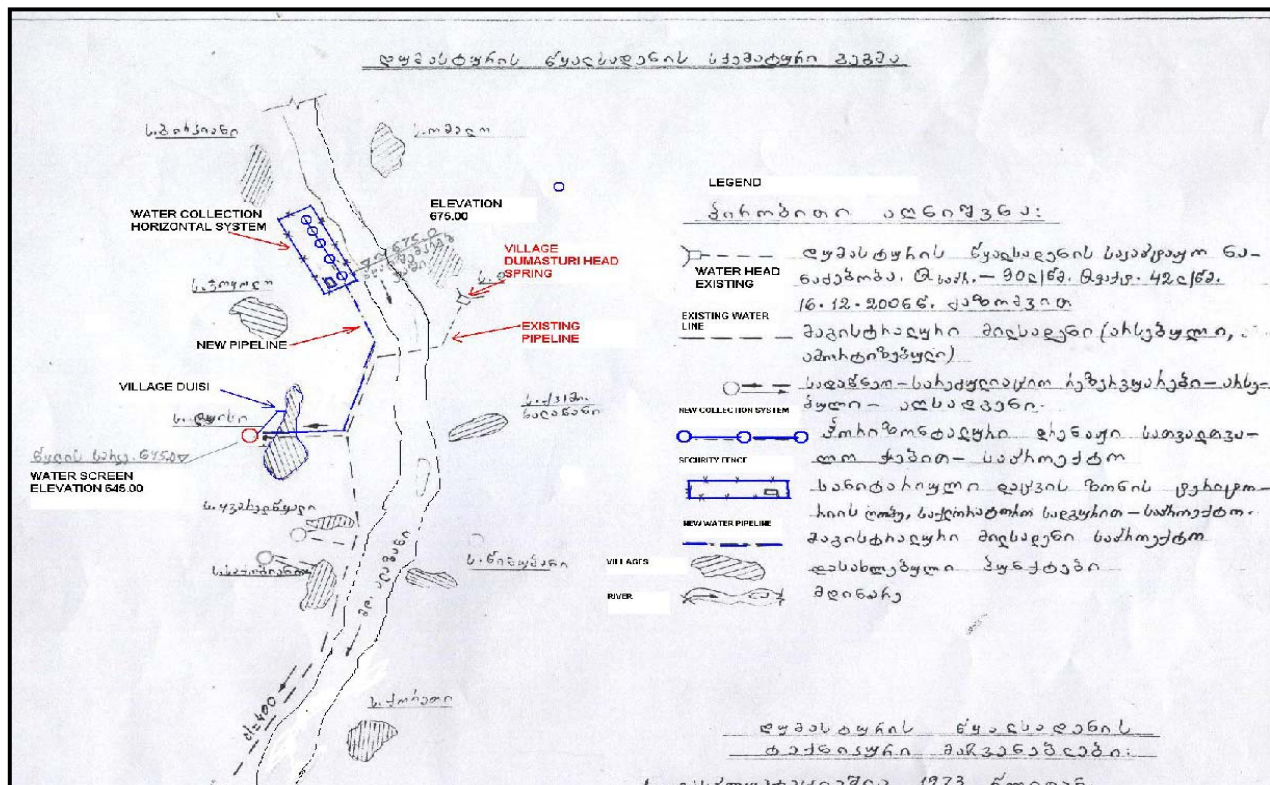
Gremi Orphanage Center renovation supports orphaned and internally displaced persons children.



Kobuleti Hospital renovation primary family care hospital.



Kodjori Boarding School heating system provides heat to school classrooms and dining area supporting 140 orphaned students.



Pankisi Gorge Water System supplies potable water to citizens in Duici village and surrounding area.



Tsinubani School Renovation supports 140 children in the Pankisi Gorge Area, but student population predicted to increase to 300. New project renovates the roof and third floor, and provides heating, electrical outlets, and lighting to the entire building.



Digomi Prosthetic Orthopedic Clinic heating system supports disabled citizens and veterans in Tbilisi.

Ghana



(25 September 2007)

VOLTA, Ghana — U.S. Ambassador to Ghana, Pamela E. Bridgewater and Mr. Robert L. Moore, U.S. European Command (USEUCOM) Deputy, Logistics and Security Assistance Directorate, present medical supplies to Dr. Geoffrey Nyamuame, Director of Volta Regional Hospital on Sept. 25, 2007. The supplies were donated by the USEUCOM Humanitarian Assistance program and support a promise made by USEUCOM Deputy Commander, Army Gen. William "Kip" Ward, to provide immediate assistance. Army Col. Yolanda Dennis-Lowman, International Division Chief, directs USEUCOM's Humanitarian Assistance program. A subsequent shipment of medical supplies is scheduled for delivery in November 2007. (Department of Defense photo by Army Maj. Tong Vang).

Hungary

U.S. Ambassador Honored by the Roma Minority Government



The Roma Minority Government of Gyöngyös greets Ambassador Foley (20 July 2007)

On July 20, 2007, the Roma local government of Gyöngyös (Northern Hungary) presented the annual Pro Egalitate Award to U.S. Ambassador to Hungary April H. Foley in recognition of her role in promoting equal opportunities for Roma.

Zsolt Lakatos, Deputy Chairman of the Roma local government, praised outstanding cooperation with the U.S. Embassy in efforts to promote equal opportunities.

Ambassador Foley said societies that bonded their members by giving them equal opportunities as individuals or as members of a community were strongest.

The Pro Egalitate was also awarded this year to Chief of the Embassy's Office of Defense Cooperation, Colonel Lawrence J. Kinde, for assistance the office had previously provided in upgrading several Roma institutions in Gyöngyös.

The award's recipients over the past years have included former Hungarian President Arpad Göncz and Hungarian-born businessman George Soros.

Local and national media reported on the event.

Kosovo



Patients waiting to be registered; two Semper Lex medics and two locals work the registration tables (27 January 2007)

MEDCAP 27 JAN 2007

TASK FORCE MED FALCON XIII SUPPORTING TASK FORCE POLUKR

TOWN: PALDEVICE

Patients treated:

- Dental: 48
- Medical: 230
- Optometry: 97

Overall the MEDCAP was a success and the numbers speak for themselves. Residents who showed up left smiling. The Optometrist, 1LT Martin stated that her Section had a great turn out and that the patients were orderly and left with a smile with their 'new' glasses. LTC Cureton did a tremendous job with many of the residents of that area.



1LT Martin with her patient having just given him a set of glasses (10 February 2007)

MEDCAP 10 FEB 2007

TASK FORCE MED FALCON XIII SUPPORTING TASK FORCE PATRIOT

TOWN: DONJI MAKRESH

Patients treated:

- Dental: 20
- Medical: 148
- Optometry: 67

The MEDCAP went very smoothly. During this MEDCAP, Patriot did an excellent job of controlling the patients. To say the least, the additional support provided by the POLUKR was priceless.



TMK (KPC) In-processing patients (23 February 2007)

MEDCAP 23 FEB 2007

TASK FORCE MED FALCON XIII: SUPPORTING TASK FORCE RED DRAGON

TOWN: DELBELDE

PLACE: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FOCUS: SCHOOL'S CHILDREN

Patients treated:

- Dental: 21
- Medical: 100
- Optometry: 22

The MEDCAP was very successful. Although the focus was the children at the school, we were able to see other ages without a problem. Red Dragon was exceptional in planning and executing this MEDCAP. They provided Med Falcon with an excellent rehearsal and timeline. They constantly provided security, crowd control, activity for the waiting children, and frequent checks and offer for assistance to the providers until the end. Dental is a very needed and the longest-lasting service we provide at these MEDCAPs. Thanks to all of Red Dragon, especially 1st LT. Shaffer and CPT Hurtt for the opportunity and execution of this event.

MEDCAP 10 MAR 2007

TASK FORCE MED FALCON XIII SUPPORTING TASK FORCE POL/UKR

TOWN: STRPCE

Patients treated:

- Dental: 7
- Medical: 92
- Optometry: 93

The MEDCAP was a success from TFMF's standpoint; photos not available.



LTC John F. Lopinto, TF Med Falcon veterinarian, administers de-worming medication while Staff Sgt. Kellie Lonnemann, TF Med Falcon veterinary technician, and a local resident struggle to hold down the anxious sheep during a Veterinary Civil Assistance Program in Kisno Polje/Kishnapole (19 March 2007)

VETCAP 19 MAR 2007
TOWN: KISNO POLJI

The TF Med Falcon Veterinary Team held a VETCAP at the request of TF Patriot. A deworming treatment was given to the animals. Written Herd Health information, translated into Albanian for the Kosovo Albanians was distributed by TFMF and TF Patriot.

Animals Treated: 202 TOTAL

- Cattle: 140 treated with topical Cydectin (moxidectin)
- Sheep: 62 treated with combinex

Forty-five minutes drive time from Camp BONDSTEEL. We went to each village and then walked to each farm (3-5 farms/village) where the animals were penned up. Stalls and pens for the animals were in need of sanitation improvement. The written information for the farmers, supplied by TFMF, is an addition to these VETCAPS. The effects of this agricultural education on HERD HEALTH will have a much more lasting impact on the farmers than the impact of the VETCAP.



LTC Lopinto, MSG Aquino, and SSG Lonnemann treat animals (28 March 2007)

VETCAP 28 MAR 07
TF MED FALCON
TOWN: GORANCE

The TF Med Falcon Veterinary Team held a VETCAP in support of a focused operation where a deworming treatment was given to the animals.

Animals Treated: 300 TOTAL

- Cattle: 255 treated with topical Cydectin (moxidectin)
- Sheep: 45 treated with combinex

MEDCAP 31 MAR 07
TF MED FALCON
TOWN: GNJILANE

The principal purpose of the involvement was to establish contact with an organization of Kosovar military veterans and provide preliminary information to this group about Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. The people of this sector, and of course probably in the rest of Kosovo, continue to suffer the sequellae of violence and war. Some of these sequellae involved the psychological wounds of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, just as the civilian populace and soldiers in any violent conflict might. Medical resources and training are limited in this locale and any local interest in correcting this deficiency warrants swift response and support. If any veterans or medical providers desire this support, especially in the areas of education and training, a rapid response should be provided. An introductory presentation was prepared and delivered utilizing Power Point with the help of a Task Force Medical Falcon Albanian interpreter. The presentation itself appeared to be well received, with approximately 15 Kosovar ex-soldier's and about seven family members and other MEDCAP recipients in the audience. Several American soldiers from TFP also were present following a generally announced invitation. With the help of the interpreter several of the Kosovar gentlemen asked relevant questions and seemed satisfied with the answers.



1LT Cotton was instrumental in running a very smooth Pharmacy (14 April 2007)

COL Thomas did a tremendous job (14 April 2007)

MEDCAP 14 APR 2007

TASK FORCE MED FALCON XIII SUPPORTING TASK FORCE HELLAS

TOWN: TALINOVC

Patients treated:

- Dental: 24
- Medical: 126
- Optometry: 97

The MEDCAP went very well. TF HELLAS did a very good job in scouting the location for the MEDCAP. Considering that only approximately 40 Kosovo Serb families live in the immediate community there was a relatively good turnout of Kosovo Serbs, especially the number of children. COL Thomas and the Greek Dentist worked very well as a team.



1LT DiGiovanni greets local citizens.
(14 April 2007)



COL Rauch provides pharmaceutical services.

MEDCAP 14 APR 2007

TASK FORCE MEDICAL FALCON XIII SUPPORTING TASK FORCE PATRIOT

TOWN: TOPONICA

Services utilized:

- Dental: 15
- Medical: 195
- Optometry: 64
- Pharmacy: 200

1LT DiGiovanni and Task Force Patriot are to be commended for the planning, coordination and execution of this MEDCAP. They were able to recruit local physicians, an optometrist from Pristina, Polish Medical and Dental officers, and assistance from the TMK, making this operation a great success. Having the local practitioners participate does make the MEDCAPS more a “Teach, Coach, Mentor” environment, which is ultimately what we are trying to accomplish. Hopefully other Task Forces will be able to replicate the scenario we had in future MEDCAPS.



COL Thomas treating patients (28 April 2007)



NATO participation (28 April 2007)

MEDCAP 28 APR 2007

TASK FORCE MED FALCON XIII SUPPORTING TASK FORCE RED DRAGON

TOWN: LETNICA

Patients treated:

- Dental: 18
- Medical: 102
- Optometry: 47

The MEDCAP went well. As seen from the numbers, we had a good mix of patients. There was great participation from our NATO brothers. Red Dragon did a wonderful job in getting us, TF MED FALCON, in and out of the school.



MSG Blesilda Aquino treats animals (17 May 2007)

VETCAP 17 MAY 07

TOWN: KOLINA/KATUNI

Animals treated: 110 TOTAL

- Cattle: 89 treated with topical Cydectin (moxidectin)
- Dogs: 11 (rabies vaccine)

TF Med Falcon Veterinary Team held a VETCAP in support of focused operation. Cattle were dewormed and dogs were vaccinated against rabies.

Latvia

The U.S Military Ship Arrives In Riga (15 May 2007)

Riga, May 15, 2007. - The United States Embassy in Riga is pleased to announce that today, May 15, the United States naval ship USS NORMANDY arrived in Riga. The Defense Attaché of the U.S. Embassy Lt.Col. David P. Holahan and the Minister of Defense Atis Slakteris will pay a courtesy call to the ship and will meet the crew and the captain of the ship Robert S. Kerno at 14.45 pm. The USS NORMANDY will be participating with Latvia and other NATO countries in military exercises in the Baltic Sea. The USS NORMANDY and her 26 Aegis cruiser sister ships are multi-mission platforms capable of carrying out missions in the air, along the surface, beneath the waves, and against distant targets ashore. Air Warfare (AW), Surface Warfare (SUW), Undersea Warfare (USW), and Strike Warfare (STW) are the NORMANDY's principal missions as she sails in company with Carrier and Expeditionary Strike Groups, smaller Surface Action Groups composed only of surface combatants, or operates independently. In performing these missions, the NORMANDY can work with the full range of sea and shore-based aircraft, satellites, and other joint forces and systems using the latest communications and data link equipment. The NORMANDY plays an active role in Maritime Interdiction Operations (MIO) whereby vessels are boarded on the high seas in support of the Global War on Terrorism, to enforce international sanctions, or to assure the free flow of trade. Whether monitoring the skies, hunting submarines, firing ordnance in support of soldiers ashore, or boarding vessels in search of terrorists, the USS NORMANDY and her capable crew are always working to promote global security.

The U.S. Government Presents Goods Worth Over \$103,000 To Social Welfare Centers In Latvia (16 October 2007)

Riga, October 16, 2006. -- Today, the United States Government through the European Command of the Office of Defense Cooperation will officially present over \$103,000 worth of furniture, cookware, appliances, recreational equipment, and musical instruments to three social welfare centers in Latvia. The centers receiving the property are the social welfare centers "Ilgi" and "Aizviki" in the Liepaja Region and the children's social welfare center "Vegi" in the Talsi Region. According to US Ambassador to Latvia Catherine Todd Bailey, "The donation of this equipment is another example of the extensive partnership between the US and Latvia. It also represents a successful public-private partnership in which excess public property will have a second and prolonged life in the private sector where it is badly needed." At 15:00, the directors of each of the welfare centers and the director of the Liepaja Social Welfare Agency will gather at the social welfare center "Ilgi", Grobina rural district, for the official presentation of the equipment by US government representatives.

Mali

Flintlock MEDCAP Humanitarian Assistance, Kidal-Tessalit, Mali (16-30 June 2007)

To provide medical, veterinary and dental JCET team leadership and support to 1/10 SFG Humanitarian Assistance (HA) mission (MEDCAP/VETCAP/DENTCAP) Kidal-Tessalit, Mali.

- Outpatients: 1,469
- People receiving dental hygiene products: 500
- Animals treated: 3,015

This was a very successful mission. Direct care was provided to over 1400 people and over 3000 animals, as well as the successful de-worming mission across the region by medical and veterinary providers. Local political, medical and religious leaders expressed gratitude for our efforts. ODA teams provided outstanding, professional support, including: facility procurement, process organization, crowd management and direct care. The local populace of Kidal and Tessalit are more favorably disposed to US forces as a result of this mission.

Malaria is a very real threat in this area. Other prevalent diseases in the local community/environment are dysentery, leishmaniasis, schistosomiasis, meningococcal meningitis, tick typhus (livestock). A significant threat of malnutrition and failure to thrive is present in the regions covered during this mission and have been identified by local health care and military leaders. There are various venomous snakes and scorpions in less populated areas. The worst time is generally at the end of the rainy season (end of Oct early Nov). The embassy has snake antivenin (which was expired during last site survey) and no scorpion antivenin. The large local hospitals in Bamako do have antivenin reportedly available. Avian flu is present, but holds low risk to troops. Troops should stay away from fowl carcasses, whether in the environment or in the market. Transmission of avian flu should be considered a non-factor as long as the fowl food items are properly cooked.

Mauritania

United States Aids Tintane Flood Victims (22 August 2007)

The United States Embassy in Mauritania has donated to UNICEF eleven water bladders, each with a capacity of 12,000 liters, which will be used to store and distribute clean water to victims of the recent flooding in Tintane. UNICEF will transport the bladders and oversee their emplacement. Mr. Said Al Nammary, Acting UNICEF Director in Mauritania, accepted the donation on behalf of his organization.

The bladders were purchased locally and funded by the United States Department of Defense's European Command through one of its humanitarian assistance programs. A team from the Embassy plans to visit the Tintane region to assess specific needs for further assistance.

Moldova

MDA-335 took place 11-19 Nov 07 as an HCA-linked event. Approximately 6,200 children in 32 schools across Moldova received dental fluoride treatments as well as Hepatitis-A and Chickenpox vaccinations. Vaccinations were for a segment of those children, not all 6,200, but dental will cover all. Four NCARNG soldiers and two civilian dental professors took part. US ambassador Michael Kirby took part in a site visit and media event on 14 November 2007.



Ambassador Kirby Attends Opening of Basarabeasca Fire and Rescue Station Renovated with U.S. Assistance (27 February 2007)

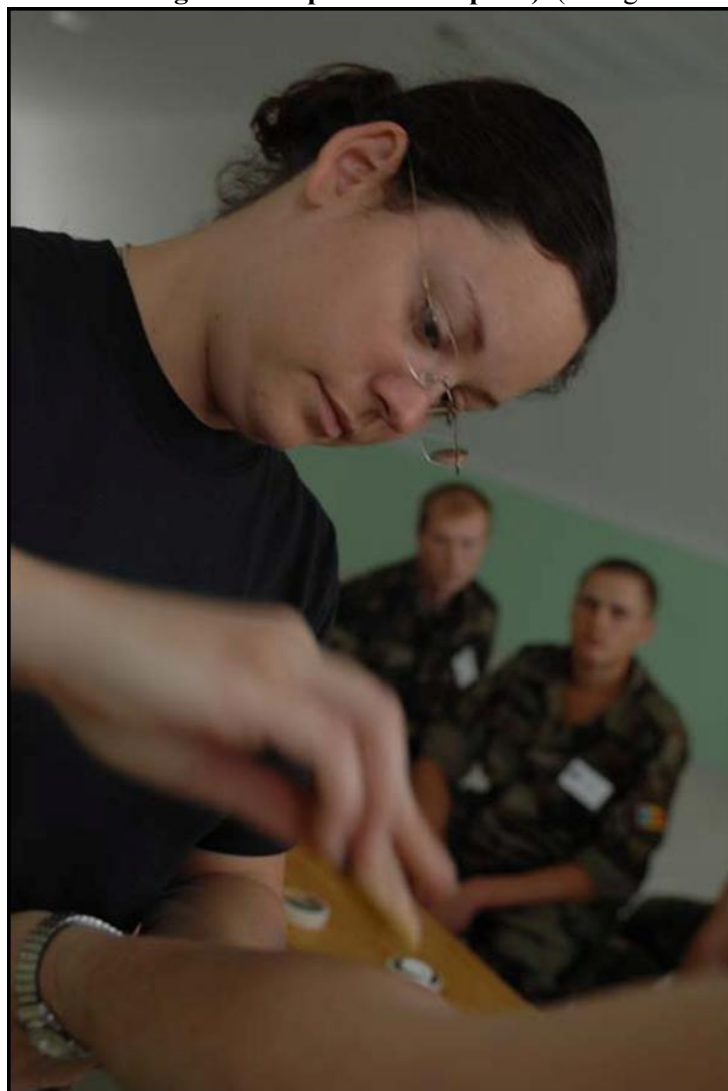


Newly-Renovated Basarabeasca Fire and Rescue Station

Thanks to their newly-renovated Basarabeasca Fire and Rescue Station, the firefighters and rescue workers of Basarabeasca are now better able to respond to natural and manmade disasters that may

occur—making life more secure for the 28,000 inhabitants of the region. The renovation project was funded by the U.S. European Command Humanitarian Assistance Program and administered by the Office of Defense Cooperation, which is attached to the U.S. Embassy in Moldova. The United States spent almost \$270,000 on this project: \$232,000 for the renovation itself, plus a separate donation of \$35,000 to cover furniture and firefighting equipment. The official opening of the renewed Basarabeasca Fire and Rescue Station took place on February 27, 2007. U.S. Ambassador Michael Kirby delivered a speech during the opening ceremony. Interior Minister Papuc and other Moldovan officials also participated in the ceremony.

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Nicole Aly shows students the usual methods for applying different colors of make-up to create realistic looking bruises for training exercises here Aug. 5, 2007, during the medical training exercise in Central and Eastern Europe. (Department of Defense photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher A. Campbell). (5 August 2007)



BOLBOACA TRAINING CENTER, Moldova – Members of the U.S. military will be providing medical care, lessons on pediatric dental care and humanitarian assistance Aug. 7 in the local villages of Cobusca Veche and Floresti. Villagers are welcome to attend the day's events beginning with a contract-signing ceremony at the Floresti Community Center and Kindergarten at 10 a.m. The U.S. Ambassador, Michael D. Kirby, will be the guest of honor at the ceremony which officially awards a renovation contract to a local contractor. Following the signing, the official party will make their way to an artesian well site in the village of Cobusca Veche. Fifty percent of the current population of the village has limited water. The goal is 100 percent water for the 2,700 residents. The final stop for the ambassador and the official party will be at the Cobusca Veche Community Center. Here, medical and dental professionals from both the U.S. and Moldova will be screening for high-risk diseases such as diabetes and hypertension. While waiting for the screenings, parents and children can learn about pediatric dental care from visiting dental professionals. The screenings will begin at 10:30 a.m. and will continue as long as there are patients waiting to be seen. These bilateral humanitarian-

assistance projects are being conducted as a symbol of the United States' appreciation for the hospitality of the Moldovan people and as a display of the commitment to the Partnership for Peace program. Villagers are welcome to attend the day's events.



Michael D. Kirby (left), U.S. Ambassador to Moldova, and COL Mary Peterson, USAF (right), U.S. exercise co-director sign the “ceremonial” contract for repair of Community Center - Kindergarten during MEDCEUR 2007 media/DV day. (7 August 2007)



COL Mary Peterson, USAF, U.S. co-director of the exercise, makes the “first ceremonial” dig at the construction site for an artesian well during MEDCEUR 2007 media/DV day while Ambassador Kirby and Mayor Tumac are watching. (7 August 2007)

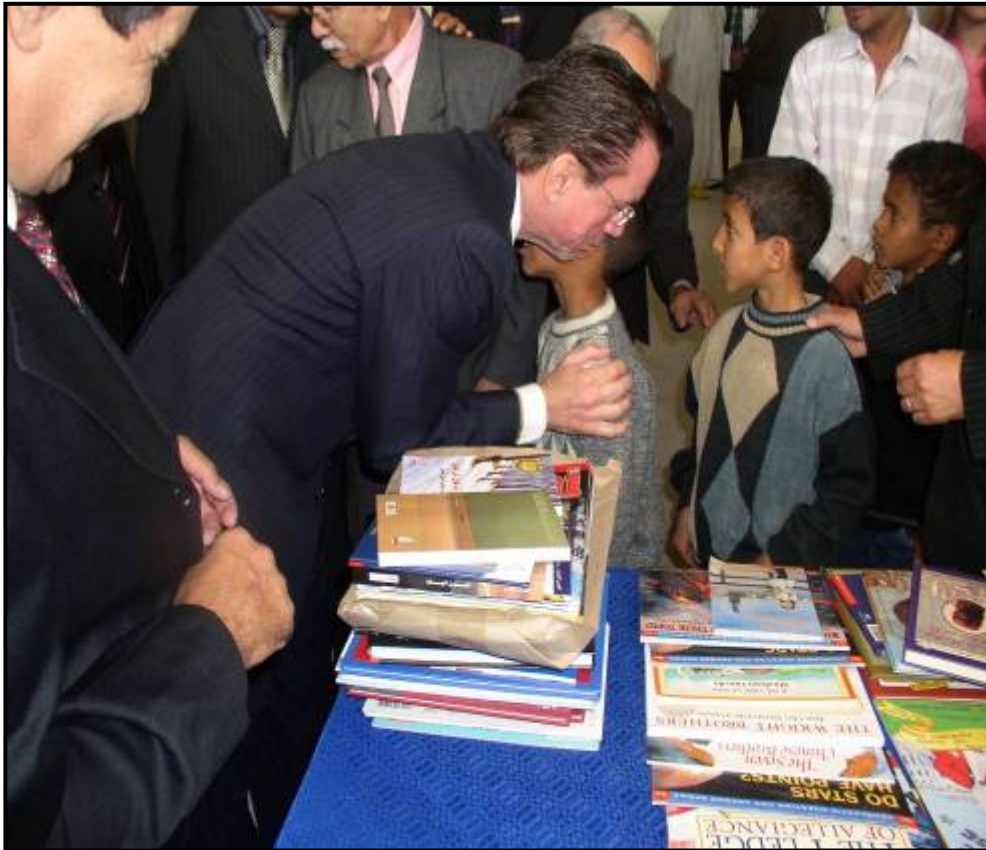


Moldovan medical personnel, trained by U.S. forces participating in MEDCEUR 2007 exercise perform blood pressure and blood glucose testing to the villagers of Cobusca-Veche, Moldova. (7 August 2007)



Michael D. Kirby, U.S. Ambassador to Moldova and U.S. troops donate tooth hygiene items to the children of Cobusca-Veche village during the dental outreach program as part of the MEDCAP project for MEDCEUR 2007. (7 August 2007)

Morocco



7 December 2006. Ambassador Thomas Riley dedicates an ODC Morocco/ EUCOM Humanitarian Assistance Project at the Dar Talib Orphanage in the city of Agadir with the Orphanage Association President, Mr. Houcine Soussi. This ODC/EUCOM HA Project renovated the orphanage building and washrooms, greatly improving the health standards, learning, and living environment of the orphanage for the children.

DÉVELOPPEMENT

Le droit de jouer

L'ambassadeur américain Thomas Riley visite une école à Tan Tan

RACHID TAHIK

“

“ J'aime mon pays, comme j'aime mes parents et mes ancêtres. ”

CHANTAIENT LES ÉCOLIERS

Visite
M. Thomas Riley
entouré des enfants
de l'école Ain
Rahma à Tan Tan.

L'egon de lecture à l'école Ain Rahma à Tan Tan. Sur le tableau, un grand titre annonce bien la couleur : “ Droit de l'enfant ”. “ Qu'est-ce que c'est un droit ? ”, lance un instituteur. “ C'est le droit à l'expression et à l'information. C'est encore le droit à l'éducation et à la santé ”, répond un élève sous le regard surpris de l'ambassadeur des États-Unis à Maroc, Thomas Riley, qui a rendu visite, samedi 9 décembre, à cet établissement scolaire où le Bataillon mobile de construction navale américain a ensemencé, il y a un an, un projet de construction de quatre nouvelles salles de cours.

Arrivé sur place, le diplomate américain, comme d'habitude, écoute et pose des questions. Accompagné du responsable de cet établissement scolaire qui lui présente le personnel de l'école, M. Riley s'arrête sur la fiche qui présente l'association des parents d'élèves. “ Est-elle bien impliquée dans votre école ? ”, questionne-t-il. “ Devant vous, il y a le président de

l'association, qui pourrait vous répondre ”, réplique son guide. Un homme avance vers le diplomate américain en hochant la tête. “ Oui, oui, nous sommes très impliqués ”, dit-il.

Scène de la visite. L'ambassadeur entre dans une deuxième classe. Là, il est accueilli par des chants : “ J'aime mon pays, comme j'aime mes parents et mes ancêtres ”, lance un enfant. Quant à la troisième classe, son tableau affiche un drôle de titre : “ Les you you du quartier ”.

Après avoir écouté tout le monde, M. Riley a visité une petite exposition dans les couloirs de l'école, des tableaux représentant des personnages et des paysages sahraouis. Quelques instants après, le voilà en train de discuter avec des invités des vertus du thé.

Le déplacement du diplomate américain dans cette région a été l'occasion pour lui de voir de près plusieurs projets financés par le Programme d'assistance humanitaire et de discuter avec les autorités locales des perspectives d'un partenariat dans le domaine de

l'investissement et de la création d'emplois dans la région ainsi que le renforcement des moyens pour stimuler l'intérêt de la société pour les prochaines élections.

Lors de ce voyage, le diplomate américain a visité également l'orphelinat de Ous Talib, à Agadir et celle du programme intégré de la gestion des ressources hydrauliques. Pour ce système de régulation de l'eau, l'agence américaine de développement international (USAID) a mis en place trois systèmes pilotes de régulation des ressources hydrauliques dans le Souss-Massa. Ces systèmes visent l'acquisition des données, leur transmission à partir de sites éloignés vers un poste central, ainsi que leurs stockage, traitement, analyse et archivage.

Les partenaires de ce programme : l'Agence du bassin hydraulique, la délégation régionale de l'Office national de l'eau potable et l'Office régional de mise en valeur agricole.

Le haut diplomate a expliqué que la nouvelle démarche de coopération tend à traiter

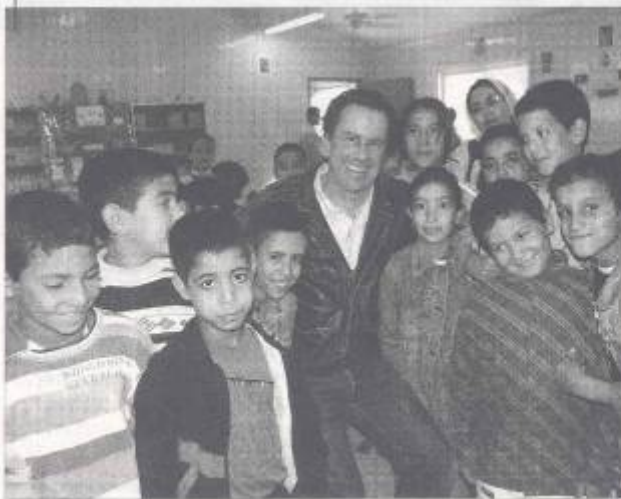


Lors de son séjour à Tan Tan, M. Riley a tenu à porter la “dorajya”.

davantage avec les associations pour que l'aide bénéficie directement aux populations concernées sans passer par le canal officiel Etat à Etat. “ C'est une coopération entre peuple américain et peuple marocain ”, a-t-il déclaré. Il a été interpellé par des défenseurs de l'environnement à propos d'éventuels investissements tou-

ristiques américains.

“ Je veillerai à ce que ces investissements respectent le cachet régional ”, a-t-il conclu avant d'aller assister à l'ouverture officielle du Mousssem de Tan Tan, proclamé patrimoine oral et immatériel de l'humanité et qui a réuni cette année plus de 30 tribus sahraouies.



Un programme singulier

Le programme Assistance Humanitaire (HA) a un rôle principal dans le renforcement de la stratégie de diplomatie publique de l'ambassade américaine à Rabat.

Le HA est géré par le Bureau de la coopération de défense (ODC) et financé par le Commandement euro-américain (Eucom). Ce projet est “ singulier puisqu'une aide directe est attribuée au peuple marocain sous la forme de construction, de rénovation d'écoles, d'orphelinats, de centres pour femmes, d'infrastructures et de puits ”.

Cette année, l'ODC a triplé les fonds de son aide humanitaire, un record (avec le financement de 900.000 dollars en projets). Ce programme compte actuellement 21 projets totalisant 1,2



million de dollars dans plusieurs villes comme Rabat, où des petites localités telles que Erroud ou Tan Tan.

9 December 2006. This building at the Ain Rahma School in Tan Tan was entirely constructed by Naval Mobile Construction Battalion ONE (NMCB-1) through the ODC Morocco/ EUCOM HCA Program. Ambassador Thomas Riley sits in on a class session, in one of the rooms built by the HCA program. This project provided multiple classrooms to an overcrowded school in an under-privileged area and now allows over 200 additional students yearly the opportunity to receive an education.



Rabat Media Reaction, December 12, 2006. Pro-palace daily *Le Matin* published an inside-page article (with a front page teaser) covering Ambassador Riley's visit last week to an orphanage in Agadir, a hydraulic center in Souss-Massa, and a school in Tan Tan, all sites of USG-funded projects. The article features two pictures of the Ambassador; one wearing a traditional Sahraoui scarf, and another with students in Tan Tan. The article mentions the financial participation of USAID and ODC in these projects. A separate article on the same page highlighted in particular the contributions of the Humanitarian Assistance program run by ODC, with EUCOM funding.



Moroccan villagers in Bouzakarane await the US military medical team's arrival (17-27 April 2007).

Humanitarian Assistance in support of African Lion April 2007; 73 US Medical Specialists provided care in the areas of:

- Optometry
- Internal Medicine
- Dental
- Dermatology
- Gynecology
- Pediatrics
- General Care



US military medical personnel visited 10 Moroccan villages and provided medical aid to 5,800 Moroccans. Due to the remote locations of these villages, many Moroccans received modern medical attention for the first time in their lives.



Pharmacies were set up on location in each village to fulfill prescriptions after consultations with US doctors; a mother with her children's prescriptions after their consultations.



\$150K in medicines were purchased through the EUCOM HCA Program in support of African Lion 07, allowing the US doctors the medications necessary to properly treat the people of Morocco.



US advanced party Pharmacy Technicians inventory the receipt of all medications at a Moroccan base before deploying to the villages.

صورة وحكاية أمريكا تزود السكان بالماء



صورة التقطت بدوار أكرد إداوزمزم بجماعة بيزضاض بإقليم الصويرة بمناسبة تزويد السكان بالماء، تحت إشراف المهندس ولي الدين عبد العزيز وتمويل من البعثة الأمريكية للتعاون والمساعدة الإنسانية. والمشروع بهم حفر بئر وبناء صهريج ماء كبير وقنوات الربط بالماء الصالح للشرب، وقد خلف هذا المشروع انتشارا لدى السكان الذين انتفروا طويلا ربطهم بالماء. ويخلف هذا المشروع في إطار برنامج لتزويد 12 منطقة في جنوب المغرب تعاني وضعية صعبة بسبب ندرة المياه.

(خاص)

A Picture and a Story: The US Provides Inhabitants with Water” (August 2007)

A picture taken at the Douar of Akrad Idawzemzem from the commune of Bizthath in Essaouira province, in the occasion of providing the inhabitants with water, under the supervision of engineer Mr. Wali-Deen Abd El-Aziz and the sponsorship of the American Delegation for Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance. The project consisted of digging a well and building a big water container along with pipes for potable water. This project had a positive impact on the local people who were relieved after waiting for so long to be connected to water. This project falls under the program of providing water to 12 regions in the south of Morocco that are suffering from a critical situation due to the lack of water.

Americans Help San School

By Ray Castillo

WINDHOEK – On Tuesday, February 6, US Ambassador to Namibia, Joyce Barr – who travelled to the Tsumkwe Constituency with Deputy Prime Minister Libertina Amathila – donated books to the Community Teachers' Resource Centre in Tsumkwe, met with local officials and toured the US-funded Nyae Nyae Conservancy Centre.

The following day, February 7, Ambassador Barr and the US Embassy's Defence Attaché, Lieutenant Colonel Michael Kelley, travelled to Fransfontein and donated furniture for classrooms, a television, sports equipment and other greatly needed school

supplies to the Frans Frederik Primary School.

Ambassador Barr, who officiated at the transfer of the goods, said: "As some of you may know, cooperation between countries can take many forms. The excess property being given to Frans Frederick Primary School today is one example of this cooperation.

"Through the excess property programme, the US Department of Defence donates and distributes to friendly nations property it does not need. These donations are used to help in a number of areas; for example, to promote democratic development and regional stability, to prevent humanitarian crises, as well as to help countries in recovering

from conflict.

"Typical examples of the type of excess property provided under this programme are clothing, furniture, medical or school equipment and supplies, vehicles, tools, and construction equipment. The Department of Defence, through its European Command, is responding to the need to improve education for Namibian learners by providing property worth NS223 530 to Frans Frederick Primary School. This donation included school supplies, books, and furniture for the classroom, a television and sports equipment," the ambassador asserted.

During Tuesday's visit to Tsumkwe, the Ambassador handed over books and met

with the staff at the Community Teachers' Resource Centre. She then visited the Nyae Nyae Conservancy office. Nyae Nyae was the first communal area in Namibia to be registered as a conservancy.

Between 1994 and 2006, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Living in Finite Environment (LIFE) Programme, invested approximately NS7.5 million in financial, material and technical resources to support the establishment and the evolution of this conservancy.

The Ambassador and Deputy Prime Minister also visited community leaders and pre-primary school teachers in Den'ui village.

Niger



Humanitarian Assistance Operations Vicinity Maradi, Niger (April 2007)

The Humanitarian Assistance efforts include medical and veterinarian treatment. In Niger, April marks the beginning of the “hungry season” which will continue until the millet is harvested in September. The rainy season is from June to September, and this is when the primary crop of millet is grown. Sorghum is another staple crop. The last harvest was an average to low average harvest. Most people will eat all the food they have stored before the next crop is harvested. This region was hit very hard with famine in 2005, and many NGO organizations came to the Maradi area then. There are no signs of wide spread hunger currently in this area.

The week before this operation, it was approved by the regional Governor as well as the local mayor and Chief. The mayor is an elected position and is in charge of civil services. The Chief is a blood line position, and he is in charge of the people. They arranged for the use of the local health clinic for our operation and disseminated the information to the town. We let him know we would see pediatric patients under the age of 12. This population was chosen because children are more affected by infectious disease and parasitic infections amenable to effective treatment verses treating the adult population with more chronic complaints not amenable to a one-time treatment / cure. Control of the

crowd was facilitated by forming an organized line. A senior NCO effectively directed the line with the help of the assigned Niger military. The line remained orderly throughout the operation.

We set up in the clinic with a vital sign screening area which distributed patients to the four provider stations. After consultation the patients went to the pharmacy for treatment. Drugs were selected for their effectiveness and ability to be effective in a one-time dose. The most common illness seen were febrile diarrhea, nematode infections (characterized by the obvious “worms in the stool”, general gastric complaints, anemia, malnutrition, and a known high prevalence), malaria (daily recurrent fevers, malaise, nausea), upper respiratory infections, pneumonia and fungal skin infections.

Additionally, one-time dosing was key due to inadequate ability to store medicines, illiteracy and often one mother brought children from several families. Some parents expressed concern that they were not “taking medicine home with them.” We explained that we were using medicine effective in one dose. Chewable children’s vitamins were distributed so parents would have “some medicine to take home”. The bottles of chewable vitamins were broken down into bags of 20 tablets, so that if all were eaten at once, the levels of iron in the tablets would be well below toxic levels (this was a lesson from previous humanitarian operations). Azithromycin, although relatively expensive, was the most common antibiotic prescribed due to its effectiveness in one dose and its acceptable taste to children. Mebendazole for nematode infections is a chewable tablet effective in one dose. Almost all children were treated for nematode infection. Mefloquine for malaria is effective in one dose.

This was a successful operation. The Niger military physician and soldiers from the PSI company of Maradi were exemplary and extremely helpful. They were professional, punctual and did not waver in their duties. They successfully facilitated each day’s operations.

Women’s Cooperative in Abalak, Niger

The overall goal of this project was to help the Women’s Cooperative continue the proven work they have been doing. The women’s cooperative works to produce products and help with education skilled trades to the women in the town of Abalak, Niger and the Azawak Valley. These women operate sewing machines, pass out food, and teach trades throughout the year. The cooperative is concerned with making a better life for the locals and preparing for the future. This organization has been in existence since 2001. The refurbishment of the roof and walls will help the women to continue to work and better serve their community. The project will serve over 100 families and an estimate of over 1,000 people.



Tazait



Alamamag

Well Construction in Tazait and Alamamag (7 May 2007)

These two sites/villages both needed new wells drilled to depths of 110 meters. These wells will provide more water and allow more people to stay in the area. Water is one of the most basic human necessities. It is in short supply in the pastoral zone, with many communities not having a reliable and easily accessible supply of reasonably clean drinking water. A Tuareg proverb says “Aman Iman” (water is life). It is important to nomads for this reason but also because it gives the group potential for economic growth and it gives them some measure of land tenure. Families will grow and then the following steps are to construct grain banks and then schools. These wells will benefit a total of 1,600 individuals.

Gift of Food and Medical Products of a Value of 2.618.000.000 FCFA (Niamey, 31 July 2007)

The church “The Church of Jesus Christ of The Latter Day Saints” (also known under the name of Mormon Church) based in the USA made a gift of 240 tons food and medical products of a value of 5.5 million dollars, that is to say approximately 2.618.000.000 of F CFA, for distribution in Niger for the neediest. The Mormon Church worked in partnership with the American Islamic Help, the Islamic Help Nigerian, the American Department of Defense, the Embassy of the United States in Niger, and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to carry out this major contribution to Niger. This gift was transported from the United States in 15 containers weighing 16 tons each one and containing: medical products, sheets and mattress covers, wheel chairs, cradles; personal hygiene kits, school material, vegetable oil, and a great quantity of Atmit (foodstuff used to fight against malnutrition). This gift will be distributed to the needy village communities in Niger by the means of the Islamic Help Nigerian and the UNDP. It should be noted that this gift of the Church of Mormon was conveyed from the United States to Niger thanks to the services of the American Islamic Help and of the assistance of the American Department of Defense and the Embassy of the United States in Niger. The American Islamic Help sent assistances to other African countries during the last year, including Burkina Faso, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Sudan (Darfour). The American Islamic Help (www.irw.org) is a non-profit-making humane organization and is member of the world family of Islamic Help (IRW), an international organization of help and development, helping to reduce poverty and the suffering of the poorest of the world. During the past 23 years, IRW increased considerably, with a permanent presence in 37 countries throughout the whole world. IRW has a large variety of projects, including education and training, water and hygiene, the developing income products, support to orphans, health and nutrition, and emergency assistance.

Nigeria



Permanent Secretary of Education heartily shakes hands with Ambassador Campbell for the book donation (2 June 2007)

KANO, Nigeria — Abdullahi Zango, Nigerian Permanent Secretary of Education, thanks U.S. Ambassador John Campbell here June 2 during a book donation at the Dala Government Girls School. The first in a series of book donations, the project will donate 11,880 books to 60 secondary schools in Northern Nigeria. Campbell also commissioned U.S. constructed seed storage facilities at Garko LGA and Darki LGA June 3. The seed storage project provides safe and secure seed storage with educational facilities to five communities throughout Kano and Kaduna States and key infrastructure to support the self sufficiency of communities in Northern Nigeria. A joint project with Kano and Kaduna State Governments, and U.S. Office of Defense Cooperation, the seed storage project facilitates a joint partnership with the United States Agency for International Development, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture and United States Department of State. Both projects are sponsored by the U.S. European Command Humanitarian Assistance Program which strengthens international relationships, improves infrastructure for the host nation and reduce significant suffering. (State Department photo by Idika Onyukwu)



On August 17, US Charge D' Affaires Robert Gribbin presented a collection of books consisting of 198 titles to Monsignor Paul Russell, Charge D' Affaires of the Embassy of the Holy See, Abuja at a short but impressive ceremony. The books will support the educational needs of school children in Bauchi State, and is part of a larger US Government book donation program involving eleven thousand volumes. In presenting the books, Charge Gribbin said education is vital to cultivating and sustaining any society, adding that "support for education is a high priority for the American government, and represents a significant aspect of our foreign assistance around the world." "I hope that this modest contribution will help to improve the education of the children in Bauchi state," the Charge added. The Catholic Diocese of Bauchi currently maintains fourteen schools serving 3946 children, the majority of whom are non Catholics. Ten of these schools are both kindergarten and primary schools, serving 3436 children; one is a primary school serving only 50 children; and there is one secondary school, serving 460 youth. Only four of these schools are self supporting. In addition, the Diocese hopes to build a kindergarten in the village of Propandi. Accepting the donation, Monsignor Paul Russell said sometimes a friend comes to lend a helping hand, and, today, "dear friends from the United States of America are here to extend a helping hand." He expressed gratitude for the gift which will be used in the Catholic schools of Bauchi, and expressed the hope that this event is only the beginning of cooperation between the US Embassy and the Holy See "which could extend easily and effectively into many other areas," the Prelate added. He used the occasion attended by the media, members of the Catholic Church and staffers from the Office of Defense Cooperation, including Lt. Col. Luis Perozo to also invite other countries to join this strategic partnership in education and service to the people of Nigeria. A set of five soccer balls were also donated to physically challenged children from a catholic school in Kubwa, Abuja.



Staff of the US Agency for International Development, the National Institutes for Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Department for Defense pose with their award certificates with US Ambassador John Campbell (July 2007).

PEPFAR Nigeria Wins Global Award on HIV/AIDS, by Idika U. Onyukwu, Editor Crossroads.

In one of his last acts as US Ambassador to Nigeria, John Campbell was the special guest at an award ceremony to honor five US Agencies – the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the United States Agency for International Development, Department of Defense, National Institutes for Health, and the Public Affairs Section for their contributions in checking the spread of HIV/AIDS in Nigeria. The Spirit of PEPFAR (President’s Emergency Plan for Aids Relief) Award is an exceptional recognition and the most coveted award given by the office of the US Global AIDS Coordinator. It honors country teams that have exemplified the precepts of the spirit of PEPFAR. This year, PEPFAR Nigeria was selected as one of the best teams.

In his opening statement, Ambassador Campbell said PEPFAR Nigeria has made significant contributions to Nigeria’s response to the growing epidemic of HIV/AIDS. “Since its inception in 2004, evidence show that Nigeria’s PEPFAR efforts are paying off – prevalence rates in this country are holding stable, and every day we are getting more and more people the treatment they need,” Ambassador Campbell said.

Ambassador Campbell, assisted by Acting Mission Director of USAID Latanya Mapp Frett, presented certificates to employees of the five agencies that won the Spirit of PEPFAR Award. The award was originally given to the Nigeria team in Rwanda. The award citation acknowledged PEPFAR Nigeria’s effectiveness in working to achieve Emergency Plan goals, supporting sustainable and innovative programs, cooperating across agencies, engaging new partners, coordinating the efforts of all stakeholders, and communicating these efforts to the Nigerian public.

Funding PEPFAR Nigeria:
Nigeria is a priority country for the US Government which is presently the largest HIV/AIDS donor in the country. HIV/AIDS funding increased from a modest \$2.7 million in FY 1999 to \$25.5 million in 2003. With the advent of President Bush’s Global HIV/AIDS Initiative (GHAII) in 2004, the US government (USG) funding has increased tremendously as follows:

- * \$26 Million for COP 2004 with the USAID portion at \$13 Million
- * \$79 Million for COP 2005 with USAID portion at \$48 Million
- * \$163 Million for COP 2006 with USAID portion at \$68 Million
- * \$305 Million for COP 2007 with USAID portion at \$137 Million.

Poland



Colonel Artur Zdrojewski, PhD, Commander, Epidemiological Reaction Center of the Polish Armed Forces, and Colonel Stanley Prusinski, U.S. Army, Chief, Office of Defense Cooperation, U.S. Embassy, Warsaw, pose with a Polish soldier wearing one of the biological protection suits that the U.S. Department of Defense provided to the Polish Armed Forces (13 July 2007)

Poland receives 9,900 kits of biological protection equipment. Under the Humanitarian Assistance Program administered by LTC Frum and Mr. Brady of the U.S. European Command and executed by Dr. Richard Olesinski of the Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC), the Polish Armed Forces have received 9,900 personal sets of biological protection equipment. The donation agreement was signed last month by COL Stanley Prusinski, ODC Chief, and COL Artur Zdrojewski, Commander of the Polish Epidemiological Response Center in Warsaw. The transfer ceremony was attended by the Deputy Chief of Poland's Military Health Services and covered by military media. The equipment will be used for training and operational purposes under a variety of biological threat conditions, including avian influenza.

Republic of the Congo



Seabees build school, relationships in Congo, by Sandra Jontz, Stars and Stripes.

A Seabee from Naval Air Station Sigonella in Italy works with a Congolese soldier to rehabilitate a school in Brazzaville, Congo's capital.

Unlike his civil affairs soldier peers in Iraq and Afghanistan, Ensign Albert Gembara is melding military services and community relations before the bombs hit. Gembara, a 26-year-old Navy reservist on active duty, is part of the first wave of brand-new Navy maritime civil affairs teams. Their goal is to make a difference in the community long before what the military calls “Phase IV or Phase V” — the rebuilding missions that follow combat operations that raze portions of a war-torn nation. They’re seeking to operate in what’s dubbed “Phase Zero.”

Instead of focusing on rebuilding cities that have been turned to rubble, the Navy’s maritime civil affairs members can focus on projects such as “job incubation,” Gembara said. By that he means getting countries’ economic systems flourishing and job markets thriving — thus keeping military-age men out of unemployment lines or rebelling.

Earlier this year, the Navy’s Expeditionary Combat Command in Virginia stood up two units whose sole focus is civil affairs missions. Tangible evidence of their work includes a recent mission in Congo in which Gembara and a team of 12 Seabees from Naval Air Station Sigonella in Sicily helped rehabilitate a 1,500-student high school and visited orphanages. The Seabees re-patched and repainted Moungali High School in the nation’s capital of Brazzaville, a project selected by the U.S. ambassador to Congo, the Congolese Ministry of Defense and the International Partnership for Human Development aid agency. Missions such as these — in which sailors rebuild schools when the nation is at war — are not a waste of the Navy’s resources or manpower, said Rear Adm. Michael Groothusen, who spent four days last week in Congo. Such projects, he said in a Friday interview, go a long way to helping stabilize a region.

“Education is important to us, yes, but it’s also important to them,” Groothusen said. Better education means a literate populace, which means an educated and viable work force. “It means growth in the economy, better jobs. It means stability in the region,” he said. “It’s selfish on our part, but we’d love to have stability on the African continent. We’d like to see peace and economic stability in that region. If that area is stable, it diminishes the possibility for conflict, and that’s why we do these things.”

At first, working relations were sticky between the Navy construction crew and the Congolese — with the latter leery of approaching the Seabees, much less lending a hand, Lt. Amy Fleming, the officer-in-charge of the Congo team, said in a phone interview from Sigonella. “The Congolese military is viewed differently by the people than we view the U.S. military. They’re viewed as aggressive ... and to them, a uniform was a uniform,” she said. Gembara, who as a civilian is director of The Gembara Group Inc., an economic development company working to revive Midwest job markets, started communications with the locals. Soon, teachers, parents and students were helping out. Even Congolese soldiers, present to

provide security for the Seabees, became involved in the repair work. “They needed ownership of the project,” he said, likening it to renting versus owning a home. You own it, you tend to take better care of it, he said. That spirit was key to making the project work.

“Though the Mounkali teachers and local Congo community were hesitant ... initially,” said Navy Capt. Frank Aucremanne, commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Europe/Southwest Asia. “The school teachers clearly stepped in and provided leadership and motivation as they began regularly showing up and moving out of their comfort zones to directly help the project succeed.”

Romania



Medical Immunizations/Humanitarian Assistance Traveling Contact Team (TCT) / RO-1485

The purpose of this event was to administer various immunizations to the Romanian children who were identified by local medical administration. These immunizations were purchased through the partnership between the US military and Romanian Government. A total of \$50,000 worth of vaccinations was purchased in support of this Humanitarian Assistance visit. Two Alabama Army National Guard medical teams covered the various locations that were selected by the US Embassy and Romanian government as significant points of interest.

- Team 1: The team was escorted by MAJ Jim McDonough (ODC) to the locations in Constanta. Upon arriving in Constanta, the medical team immediately coordinated their events with the Medical Director of Constanta. The team was taken to two separate locations in the vicinity of Constanta where they administered vaccinations to the local children who were present to receive their scheduled immunizations. Upon completion of the immunizations, the team returned to Bucharest to rejoin the other medical team.
- Team 2: The team was escorted by MAJ Pop (Romanian Military) to Galati and participated in a press conference covering the medical assistance visit. The team assisted the medical staff with vaccinations at this location. The team then traveled to the city of Bacau, where they remained overnight. The team traveled to Agas, where they were available to assist the local medical staff

with vaccinations if needed. Upon completion of the immunizations, the team returned to Bucharest to rejoin the other medical team.

The remainder of the TCT was conducted in the vicinity of Bucharest and the medical teams participated in the programmed events established by the BAO.

This was an excellent opportunity for the Alabama Army National Guard to provide humanitarian assistance to Romania in support of the National Guard State Partnership Program (SPP). The medical personnel of this team were honored and privileged to be a part of this mission. The medical community within the Alabama Army National Guard looks forward to continuing the relationship and providing future support.

Sao Tome and Principe

Ambassador Walkley Opens a DoD-Funded Clinic in Sao Tome and Principe



Opening ceremony of clinic (19 December 2006)

On December 19, Ambassador R. Barrie Walkley officially opened the Ribeira Peixe health clinic. The clinic will improve the lives of the residents of Ribera Peixe by providing basic health care services locally.

The clinic was constructed with \$75,000 in humanitarian assistance funding from the U.S. Department of Defense's European Command. Each year, the Defense Attaché Office at the U.S. Embassy in Libreville, Gabon coordinates with the Government of Sao Tome and Principe to plan a humanitarian assistance program focusing on health and education. Over the last three years, the U.S. has carried out over \$1 million in humanitarian assistance projects in Sao Tome and Principe. In 2006, the program built and renovated schools in Principe, rehabilitated the water system in Santana, and built a new clinic near the military base. In 2006 the Defense Attaché Office also brought school supplies to the high school, medical equipment for clinics in Principe, and water tankers to improve the distribution of potable water.

In his remarks at the opening of the Ribeira Peixe clinic, Ambassador Walkley noted that this program demonstrates the American people's interest in improving the lives of the citizens of Sao Tome and Principe. The Ambassador pledged continued U.S. support for Sao Tome and Principe's efforts to accelerate development and reduce poverty.

Senegal

Dedication Ceremony for the US and French Financed Building at Centre Estel, Oukam (4 December 2006)

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Senegal, the Ambassador of the United States, Mrs. Janice Jacobs, the Ambassador of the Grand Duché of Luxembourg and the Deputy Chief of Mission of the French Embassy, attended a dedication ceremony of the Center Estel for handicapped children in Oukam. The media was invited to attend the ceremony which took place at Centre Estel, Oukam, 1000 hours, 4 December.

The United States military financed the construction of four classrooms, an office, a storage room and toilet facilities at the Centre Estel, as well as provided \$25,000 worth of school and office supplies, furniture and equipment. The US military wished to address basic humanitarian needs in Oukam. To accomplish this they provided support to the Centre Estel and the children attending this school. The Defense Cooperation Office at the US Embassy chose to support the Communication and Vocational Education Specialized Technical Center (Education Spécialisée Technique d'Expression et de Loisirs - ESTEL) Association because of their excellent reputation in working with handicapped children. Centre ESTEL is a specialized center that helps handicapped and mentally challenged children to overcome their disabilities by learning basic communication and life skills. The center was founded by Madame Estelle Corval in 1999. While the Republic of Senegal provides basic schooling for these disabled children up until the age of 12 years, the Centre ESTEL educates and cares for the children from the age of 13 until adulthood. This new center was built to expand ESTEL Association's capacity to provide services to disabled children in Oukam and beyond.

This project is one of five projects financed by the US military in the year 2005 which totaled \$240,000. The Defense Cooperation Office plans to fund the same number of projects in the years 2006 and 2007. In addition to these projects, the US military in Senegal also funds demining efforts in the Casamance. These humanitarian projects complement the support that the US Armed Forces provides to the Senegalese Armed Forces in the areas of officer exchanges and officer training, provision of peacekeeping training and provision of US military equipment such as trucks, patrol boats and communication equipment, as well as HIV prevention.

The Defense Cooperation Office believes that the ESTEL Association can provide valuable service to the community of Oukam by supporting these children and their families with Centre Estel. The Defense Cooperation Office and the entire US Embassy are proud to be able to support this non-profit organization and their efforts with the handicapped children of Oukam.



LINGUERE, Senegal - Stepping away from jobs as secret service agents, airline pilots and landscapers more than 350 reserve Marines, sailors, airmen and soldiers arrived here June 16 to conduct military exercises and come face-to-face with the people of Senegal through various humanitarian assistance projects during exercise Shared Accord 07.

Release Date: Jun 26, 2007

By Marine Gunnery Sgt. Donald E. Preston, U.S. Marine Forces Europe Public Affairs

Dubbed Task Force 225 the exercise participants included Marines from Garden City, N.Y., based 2nd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment; sailors assigned to 4th Medical Battalion; Airmen from the 445th Aerospace Medical Squadron; and soldiers from the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion.

For the Marines this provided an opportunity not only to brush up on their combat skills and get familiar with the Senegalese military and how they function, but to also practice for a scheduled deployment to Iraq.

“We (2nd Battalion, 25th Marines) are scheduled to deploy to Iraq in spring 2008,” said Lt. Col. Geoff Rollins, commanding officer, 2nd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment and the task force commander. “This is good training for the battalion staff. It is as if we were deploying to Iraq, plus we get to work with the other services as a joint staff. This is extremely rare for reservists to have this opportunity.”

While the battalion's Marines primarily came from northeastern locations like New York City, Long Island, New Jersey and Albany, N.Y., the other services are sourced from all across the United States.

“It is an exercise itself to move reserve Marines this far,” said Maj. Tom Armas, executive officer, Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Marines and a Fairfield, Conn., resident. “It is hard for many of us to believe that 24 hours ago we were at our civilian jobs, moved to Garden City and are now in Senegal. This is all our personnel and equipment.”

For the junior members like Lance Cpl. Ryan M. Scheubel of Babylon, N.Y., and an Upper Room Christian School graduate, this is a whole new experience as he sees his first camel roaming amongst goats and donkeys.

“This is my first time outside the United States,” said Scheubel, a mortar man from Weapons Company. “It is alright, but it is hot. I appreciate America more because of the way people live here.”

The Linguere area is in a desert environment centrally located in northern Senegal. The towns and villages are comprised of thatched roof huts surrounded by woven stick fences. Shoeless children walk through the dirt, trash and manure laden roads, but still smile brightly and wave as the American service members drive by in vehicles.

The Airmen conducting the limited medical, dental and optical care may see or have seen these children as patients during one of their many Medical Civic Action Programs held here. Seeing hundreds of adults and children per day, the airmen examined and addressed numerous medical conditions, removed bad teeth and provided hundreds of the 20,000 eyeglasses donated by the Lions Club of America.

For those providing and receiving care every little bit helps and both are mutually enthusiastic.

“Ninety percent of the patients are overly enthusiastic about being seen and provided health care and medicine,” said Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Cliff Archer, 181st Medical Group out of Terra Haute, Ind. “It makes us feel good inside. It lets you see what else is going on in the world and do something about it.”

The Soldiers of the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion based in Fort Dix, N.J., also focused on patients ... patients of a different kind. Goats, donkeys, horses, and cows were provided various anti-parasite treatments to help the numerous local and nomadic herders. In one day the team managed to treat more than 3,000 goats in addition to treating the other animals.

Soldiers from the same group also identified engineering projects that will help the people of the Linguere community.

“We are still identifying projects,” said Capt. Paul Ferreira, civil affairs team leader. “Hopefully doing what we are doing today will prevent the Marines from having to come here in five to 10 years from now. By changing hearts and minds now we can avoid conflict in the future.”

The Shared Accord 07 exercise, which concludes June 30, is a routine U.S. European Command scheduled exercise coordinated by U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe.



LINGUERE, Senegal — Air Force Maj. Darin Brimhall, a 752nd Medical Squadron physician, conducts a well baby exam during humanitarian efforts as part of exercise Shared Accord 07. A 14-member medical team provided humanitarian medical and dental care for 10 consecutive days during the exercise which ran June 16-30. (Department of Defense photo by Air Force Master Sgt. Chance C. Babin)

Release Date: Jul 03, 2007

By Air Force Master Sgt. Chance C. Babin

LINGUERE, Senegal — A group of 14 Reserve medics teamed up with a battalion of Marine reservists and a hand full of Sailors and Soldiers to form Task Force 225 as part of Exercise Shared Accord conducted here June 16-30.

The Shared Accord 07 exercise is a routine U.S. European Command scheduled exercise coordinated by U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe. This year's joint exercise between the United States and Senegal was conducted in order to improve relations and conduct joint training with the Senegalese forces

on a tactical level while providing humanitarian assistance to the local population.

The team of medics was part of the humanitarian mission providing medical care to the people of the desert region of Linguere including general medicine, optometry and dentistry.

The Marines conducted a joint training evolution with the Senegalese military including live fire, small unit tactics and staff planning with their Senegalese military counterparts. The Navy provided real-world medical support to the entire U.S. contingent.

The Army team from the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion, New Jersey, performed civil affairs projects including veterinarian care for the local population's livestock and construction projects in and around Linguere to help improve people's lives. The medical team was able to come in and hit the ground running as they saw a steady flow of patients for 10 consecutive days in the hot desert environment of Linguere, centrally located in northern Senegal.

"Our Air Force Reserve physicians provided quality medical care to more than 4,400 Senegalese, many of which waited for days just to be seen by the American doctors," said Maj. Melissa Triche, a medical planner for the Air Force Reserve Command International Health Specialist program. "I'm very proud of

the efforts that were put forth by the medics on this team. The care they provided significantly improved the overall health of the local population. The experience and expertise that our physicians brought with them saved the lives of several Senegalese during this MEDCAP and to me that spells out a successful mission for all involved.”

For the members of the medical team the mission was a great opportunity to touch the lives of people who in many cases have no other means available to improve their lives.

“It’s been a positive experience,” said Capt. Jessica Tse, an optometrist with the 349th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, Travis Air Force Base, Calif. “It makes everyone reflect on their lives and be grateful for what we have and to be able to improve so many people’s lives has been very rewarding. It definitely makes you want to do another mission like this.”

For some of the Reserve medics this was their first time participating in a humanitarian mission.

“I’ve always wanted to do something like this,” said Maj. Darin Brimhall, a physician with the 752nd Medical Squadron, March Air Reserve Base, Calif. “Going to regular drill gets dull and I was looking for an assignment to use my skills to help people. This has rekindled my passion for what my role is in the Air Force.”

For many of the patients what some may consider routine treatment back home has been neglected here due to the lack of resources in the local population.

“I’m amazed that the dental decay rate is so high” said Lt. Col. Scott Sayre, a dentist with the 445th Aeromedical Squadron, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. “We’ve seen some very unusual things that you only see in text books or learn about in school.

“We’ve seen it first hand and we’re their only help. If we don’t do (the surgical procedure) there’s no one else that will because they don’t have the money. From that perspective dental problems become life threatening.”

Part of every successful mission stems from having a talented team that works well together, even when the environment and work conditions are challenging.

“We have a good team, very cohesive,” said Maj. Brandon Isaacs, and individual mobilization augmentee flight surgeon assigned to Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D. “I think we are having more of an impact on the general population because in many cases we are doing life-altering procedures.”

Isaacs was able to do several minor cosmetic procedures, such as removing lipomas and sebaceous cysts that help integrate these people back into their society.

“The general public has such a negative impression on people who have simple benign defects that are cosmetically problematic,” Isaacs said. “They become outcasts in society. By removing that benign lesion they are then reaccepted in society as a normal human being.”

One of those people was a man named Moussa Ba. Isaacs was able to remove a lipoma, a benign tumor found just below the skin, from his forehead.

“I feel very good now and happy,” Ba said through an interpreter. “Because I was feeling very ashamed because people were looking at me. Now it’s gone and my life is good. It’s changed my life.”

When Ba returned to have his bandages changed days later he told Isaacs that he told everyone in his village that he was a miracle worker.

Although the majority of the team was Reservists, the group was supplemented by a Guardsman and an active-duty public health officer.

“Being in the medical career field it’s a great, heart-warming experience for me to have the privilege to help the medically underserved population with their medical healthcare needs,” said Senior Master Sgt. Cliff Archer, a Guardsman medical technician with the 181st Medical Group, Terre Haute, Ind. “It’s been great working with Reservists, we’ve all blended well together and that’s what we train for, working in a joint environment.”

While the MEDCAP was taking place in Linguere, the Marines were conducting their training in Dodji, about 15 miles away, where Capt. Paul Kim, an active duty public health officer from the 86th Contingency Response Group, Ramstein Air Base, Germany was responsible for sanitation and hygiene for the training site.

“It was a great experience where I was able to do what I was trained to do in an austere environment,” Kim said. “The Marines and the Navy corpsman made it possible to keep the training site sanitary. Thanks to their efforts we had no disease nor battle injuries.”

While there Kim tested water and ice to confirm it was non-potable, thus used for hygiene use only and met with the Mayor of Dodji to give him preventive medicine tips in preparation for mosquito season. The mayor was very appreciative, Kim said. They also donated permethrin and Deet to the training site commandant for his troops to use.

“The exercise is an overwhelming success,” said Lt. Col. Michael Froeder, inspection instructor and executive officer for the 2nd Battalion 25th Marine Regiment, Garden City, New York. “The Senegalese and Marine Corps units integrated seamlessly when they were conducting training. The integration of the other services has been outstanding. Each service’s unique capabilities have complimented each other well. The MEDCAP and VETCAP efforts have exceeded all of our battalion commander’s expectations.

“Overall as a task force with personnel and units from all over the country we’ve conducted an exercise in an arduous environment in a safe manner while providing a great deal of humanitarian assistance to those in need.”

Sierra Leone



31 August 2007

The United States Department of Defense HIV/AIDS Prevention Program in Sierra Leone (DHAPP SL) has funded the construction of a Voluntary Confidential Counseling and Testing Center or VCCT Center on the grounds of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) 5th Brigade Headquarters at Gondama, Bo District. This is the first facility AIDS testing facility specifically built for members of the RSLAF and their families.

The VCCT Center will focus primarily on three areas: education of RSLAF personnel and peer-counselors on

HIV-AIDS; counseling personnel before, during and after testing; and providing HIV/AIDS as well as HIV/AIDS related testing and results on the site. Secondly, it will provide the same services to the immediate families of RSLAF members in the Gondama and Bo communities. Finally, the facility will serve as a facility for the exchange of information on HIV/AIDS between civilian and military medical personnel in the region.

The VCCT facility in Gondama will serve as the blueprint for the next two VCCT Centers to be built for the RSLAF in the coming year, also with funding from the United States Defense Department. The next project will serve 4th Brigade at Makeni, with the final building serving the 3rd Brigade in Kenema.

The total project of three new buildings is sponsored by the United States Department of Defense HIV/AIDS Prevention Program in Sierra Leone (DHAPP SL) administered from the Defense Attaché Office, United States Embassy, Freetown. Mrs. Adeola Danner has been the project coordinator, and is responsible for the administration of the project. Additionally, the conception, design and construction have been done by the RSLAF Engineers under Lt Col M.B. Massaquoi and Capt M.K. Jawara.

The opening ceremony at Gondama on August 31, 2007 was attended by the Chief of Defense Staff, Joint Force Commander, 5th Brigade commander as well as other senior RSLAF officers.

Tunisia



Senator Hayet Laouani addressing the conference with US Ambassador Godec in attendance. (12 June 2007)

The US Ambassador welcomed the EUCOM Humanitarian Assistance Partnership Conference held 12-15 June in Tunis, Tunisia. This event, described as the first EUCOM and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) joint conference, examined how these two USG organizations can develop a holistic partnership to better achieve their goals. Contributions were

also identified by participating NGOs and other USG agencies. It was quite appropriate to hold the conference in Tunisia, which has a long and rewarding history of working closely with America to bring about projects to improve the quality of life. Strong diplomatic relations and cooperation between Tunisia and the United States have endured for over 200 years. On March 26, 1799, the first agreement of friendship and trade was concluded between these two countries. In 1961, Tunisia became the first Arab country to request and receive Peace Corps Volunteers, joining forces to improve the human condition. Senator Hayet Laouani of Tunisia, in her remarks to welcome the conference participants to her country, noted that her first English instructor was a member of the Peace Corps. Her experience has served her well as today she is a leader within her country, fully supporting the ideals and values of liberty and free enterprise shared by our two countries. She is a shining example of the difference one program, indeed one person, can make.

Apaht Schools and Vocational Training Centers for Children with Special Needs

The DoD Humanitarian Assistance Program is supporting Tunisia's social reform plan for integration of the handicapped. Headquarters European Command has allocated \$760,000 for the construction of one kindergarten/elementary school and two vocational training centers located in the capital city Tunis and in two coastline towns of Nabeul and Menzel Temime.

APAHT, the Association of Parents and Friends of the Handicapped, is a Tunisian NGO with chapters located throughout the country. The association's primary objective is to provide scholastic and vocational training to children with a moderate mental or physical handicap. APAHT is working to implement a Tunisian presidential initiative to integrate challenged children into the public school system and to promote employment opportunities for the mentally and physically challenged. The educational programs and teaching methods used in the schools are planned and designed by the Tunisian National Institute for the Handicapped (INH) and will serve as models for other institutions of the same type throughout the country.

EUCOM assistance to the association through the HA program has significantly bolstered APAHT's ability to administer this Tunisian integration program for the disabled. Each of the three HA funded facilities provides spacious classrooms, handicraft workshops, physical and speech therapy rooms, an infirmary, a cafeteria, an administrative center and a multi-purpose room for student theatrical/musical presentations. Headquarters EUCOM also shipped three 40 ft containers of DoD excess property to equip the centers. A U.S. Navy ship visit to Tunisia also provided an occasion for servicemen to participate in the finishing touches of the APAHT School in Ariana.

The United States and Tunisia share the common values of equal opportunity for the disabled. Integration of the handicapped into society is a Tunisian social reform priority. These projects are an excellent example of DoD's ability to reinforce valuable social initiatives through the HA program.



Apaht School for the handicapped (March 2007)



Apaht School, Ambassador and Mrs. Godec watch as a pupil works on an exercise in Tunisian geography (March 2007)



Menzel Temime, Vocational Training Center for Challenged Youth (June 2007)



Apaht Vocational Training Center For The Disabled (September 2007)

Sfax Aids Testing Center

Headquarters European Command allocated \$250,000 for the construction of an AIDS Prevention and Testing Facility in Sfax, Tunisia. This HA project aims to address three Government of Tunisia (GOT) priorities concerning AIDS: 1) promote HIV/AIDS prevention through improved dissemination of information to youth; 2) encourage testing for AIDS through the introduction of confidential testing; 3) use increased test results to improve epidemiological data on HIV/AIDS in Tunisia.

The center represents a model of innovation in the approach to AIDS prevention in Tunisia. Center activities will be supervised by the civil society institution ATL MST/SIDA working in collaboration with the Tunisian Ministry of Health. The facility is located in the heart of the important urban center of Sfax, providing easy access to the two main target groups i.e. youth and high risk groups. It serves as a youth center as well as a medical consultation and testing facility. The ODC in Tunisia worked with the association and a local architectural and engineering firm to design the center. Special care was taken to create a facility with easy access which also maintains the privacy of users in the consultation and testing areas. As an agreeable gathering place for young people, the association will work to maximize opportunities within the center for dissemination of AIDS prevention information.

By supporting this first confidential testing effort for AIDS in Tunisia, the U.S. Government, through the DoD HA program, is helping the GOT address AIDS issues in a manner that is recognized by the international donor community. The recent approval of a grant to Tunisia from The Global Fund to Fight AIDS is an important example of such recognition. The United Nations, through UNAIDS, has also worked with the Tunisian implementing association on capacity building initiatives for this center.



The Sfax AIDS Prevention/Testing Center provides AIDS awareness training and confidential testing (April 2007)



Ambassador Robert F. Godec presents the Tunisian/American HA Cooperation plaque to Professor Abdelmajid Zahaf, President of the Tunisian Association for the Prevention of AIDS (April 2007)



Third floor of the AIDS Prevention/Testing Center (April 2007)

Uganda

Uganda TCT/MEDCAP 3-11 Mar 07 was a EUCOM funded, USAFE/SG executed Theater Security Cooperation event held in Jinja, Uganda. The event consisted of a medical exchange seminar and humanitarian medical outreach clinic (Family Practice, Optometry, and Dental) in conjunction with the Host Nation military medical providers. Four USAFE medics participated in the event at the Buwenge Health Clinic where the majority of our activities would occur. The clinic was located in a very rural area and included a public well in the compound. Many residents commuted to the well with Jerry cans to collect water throughout the day. The clinic leadership was met and the facility was toured. Rooms were appropriately selected for each clinic. Optometry was set-up separately with black-out provisions for eye examinations; dental and family practice were located in one large, operating room style area. There was no running water in either room therefore extensive use of hand-sanitizers was necessary. The maternal ward had approximately 10 beds available for patients and was sparsely occupied at the time of our visit. The laboratory did provide for basic studies, including malaria diagnosis; however, test tubes were re-used and sanitized with bleach solutions.

Upon arrival, the team met 30 members of the UPDF. A formal introduction of team members and overview of schedule of events was provided to the 30 UPDF members. Courtesies were extended to the Ugandan senior leaders who in-turn introduced their members. After presentations in Medical Readiness/Disaster Preparation, and field optometry management, the team converted the rooms for patient evaluation and treatment. The team was assisted by two dentists and two physicians (one Family Practitioner and one pediatrician). The assistance provided by the local providers was the best seen in comparison to two other African country engagements. An extremely high number of sexually-transmitted disease (STD) cases were seen, including tertiary cases of Syphilitic lesions. Numerous infants and children were seen and treated for cases ranging from upper respiratory infections to possible meningitis. Some infants displayed obvious signs of undernourishment. One patient presented with a venomous snake bite and was treated and released.

The local officials advertised our presence in various media including radio and newspapers. "Word-of-mouth" dissemination of health care availability was expected to attract larger numbers than any other medium according to the local health clinic providers. "It is a very timely intervention to a community that has limited access to proper medical care; the crowds clearly show how much the services are needed and appreciated," (Maj. Godfrey Bwine, physician and director of Public Health and the Ugandan People's Defense Force). This MEDCAP mission was successful. "This MEDCAP is a hands-on training assistance to support UPDF to help us realize our objectives in one of the areas of professionalization - that is the equipping of UPDF with skills to enable it to provide military assistance in the area of health care. I highly commend the DOD and the US Embassy for this support" (Brig. Gen. (Dr) Lwanga, Deputy Chief of Health Services of UPDF). The events proved very successful and strong bonds were formed with the local providers. This was an excellent medical exchange for the US and Ugandan military medical providers. The US providers benefited with a better understanding of prevalent diseases in the local area, treatment options, medical conditions in a developing country, and expectations of disaster response conditions. Our goal of validating the family practice formulary was realized and provided areas to improve the quantity of medications required (especially STD and pain medications). The Ugandan providers were updated on current standards in US deployment medicine operations and optometry. Medical and dental information exchange was also conducted during clinical evaluations and treatment.

Ukraine



On 30 October 2006, ODC Kiev together with EUCOM ECJ4 Humanitarian Assistance Branch in Stuttgart, Germany had an excess property shipment delivered to Lviv, Ukraine to help the needy people of Ukraine. The delivery was made to the Training-Rehabilitation Center “Dzherelo”. The Center is specializing in training and educating children with cerebral palsy. It is an NGO established in 1993. The Center employs about 50 people and serves as both school and treatment facility for more than a hundred children in Lviv and its surroundings. The Center operates completely on donations of domestic and foreign sponsors. The staff does an outstanding job and the center serves as an exemplary facility for all of Ukraine.

We provided the Center with a 40-foot container full of furniture such as tables, chairs, cabinets, etc; domestic equipment such as washing machines, dryers, microwaves, etc; expendable supplies, such as towels, sheets, cotton, etc.; and medical supplies such as catheters, stethoscopes, pipets, etc. The total value of the shipment is \$42,235.

A previous US Ambassador, Ambassador Carlos Pasqual, had a chance to visit the Center during his tour in Ukraine. Nadia Herbst, prior US Ambassador Herbst’s wife, also visited the Center about two years ago. Other famous local people that have had a chance to stop by the Center are Yulia Tymoshenko and Ukrainian pop singer Ruslana.

I would like to offer my recommendation for Ambassador Taylor to visit the center the next time he is on business in Lviv. It will give him an opportunity to see how US Government donations are used as well as provide a potential press event to spread the good will of the US in the western region of Ukraine.



On 18-20 December 2006 ODC Kiev together with EUCOM ECJ4 Humanitarian Assistance Branch in Stuttgart, Germany had an excess property shipment delivered to Mykolaiv, Ukraine to assist the HIV/AIDS prevention program in Ukraine. Mykolaiv is one of the worst-affected regions of Ukraine. The delivery was made to the Regional HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention Center. This is a Government Medical Installation that consists of a lab and an outpatient/inpatient facility.

ODC has provided the Center with two 40-foot containers full of furniture such as tables, chairs, cabinets, etc.; domestic equipment such as washing machines, dryers, etc.; expendable supplies, such as towels, sheets, medical cotton, etc.; and medical supplies such as catheters, stethoscopes, pipettes, etc. The total value of both shipments is \$77,076.

The project was originally recommended by USAID. Mykolaiv is described as a severely HIV-affected city in Ukraine. The Center services the patients from Mykolaiv itself and the surrounding region. It lacks necessary furniture and the furniture they currently use is in terrible condition. They have also recently established a new lab in a stand-alone building, which has no furniture at all. US Humanitarian Assistance could not have come at a better time for this Center. Currently USEUCOM is also considering giving funding for renovating the facility, which was built about 130 years ago and has been, among other things, a prison during that period of time.

United States European Command, HQ

EUCOM Committed to Fight the HIV/AIDS Pandemic



EUCOM-DOD HIV/AIDS Program Management Training Workshop (12-13 Sep 2007)

Twenty five participants representing 17 countries from the EUCOM, SOUTHCOM and CENTCOM AORs attended the EUCOM-DOD HIV/AIDS Prevention Program (DHAPP) Management Training Workshop at Patch Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany, 12-13 Sep 2007. The forum, sponsored by the Directorate of Logistics and Security Assistance, is a key part of the EUCOM HIV/AIDS Prevention Program Strategic Plan and involves training program management personnel to set them up for success and synchronizes DOD HIV/AIDS prevention efforts.

According to Lt Col Editha Heberlein, EUCOM Global Health Programs Coordinator, “DOD works with interagency partners to develop sustainable programs for our partner nation militaries”. The training “...reaffirms DOD’s commitment to the fight against HIV/AIDS”, said Eda Lifuka, the Zambian program manager.

ECJ4 Director, Navy Rear Admiral Steven J. Romano, kicked off the event with opening remarks. The Admiral recognized the importance of the roles of program managers, the Office of Defense Cooperation and the Defense Attaché Office in DOD’s efforts in HIV/AIDS prevention with the foreign militaries and expressed EUCOM’s commitment to continued program management training.

Participants recognized the forum as a crucial opportunity to create crosstalk with other program managers. “I really appreciate the opportunity to network with other program managers from other countries”, Priscilla Tsoetsi said, program manager from South Africa. “The program management training helps in capacity building especially when we see the best practices of other countries” said the newly hired program manager from Sierra Leone, Adeola Danner.

The forum was successful in assisting the DHAPP program managers in not only combating HIV/AIDS among civilian populations, but also among military forces. Ben Tangara, HIV/AIDS Program Manager from Mali is stated, “I would like to thank you for all you are doing to combat the epidemic and the same time keeping the foreign militaries healthy”.

Zambia

U.S. Ambassador Visits Livingstone Clinics, by Livingstone (22 February 2007)

As part of her visit to Livingstone, the U.S. Ambassador to Zambia, Carmen Martinez, visited Livingstone General Hospital and the Maramba and Dambwa Urban Health Centers on Thursday, February 22, 2007. The Ambassador met with the staff and clients of the new Livingstone District laboratory at Maramba Urban Clinic and VCT centre. The VCT centre is a collaborative effort between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). DoD invested \$102,000 to construct the centre, and CDC provided \$98,000 worth of furniture and laboratory equipment. The equipment and training provided by CDC will enable the centre to ensure the ready availability of laboratory results and save patients a trip to Livingstone General Hospital for tests. The Maramba Clinic has been a recipient of CDC and USAID support for the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) since 2002. This program provides routine HIV testing for all consenting mothers and promotes optional infant and young child breast feeding.

As part of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CDC has provided technical assistance and \$265,000 in financial support for state-of-the-art automated equipment and laboratory refurbishment at Livingstone General Hospital. The equipment has shortened the turn around time for laboratory results from three days to same day results and has helped to alleviate the staff's workload. CDC also provides assistance for the Anti-Retroviral Treatment program at the hospital, targeting both adults and children. CDC supports pediatric HIV care with the development of a Pediatric HIV Centre of Excellence, which provides comprehensive care, including equipping, training and staffing the Centre. This compliments CDC's and USAID's assistance to the Mosi-O-Tunya Family Support Centre. This unit provides counseling and testing services for the hospital and also provides psychosocial support for HIV+ children or children affected by HIV.

The Dambwa Health Centre has also received U.S. Government (USG) support for a VCT centre. This unit has provided much-needed space and enabled the clinic to expand HIV counseling and testing services to the 32,425 people living in the catchment area of the clinic. Dambwa staff work closely with community TB treatment supporters who provide support and encouragement to patients. TB patients seen at Dambwa clinic are offered HIV testing and referrals for antiretroviral treatment as part of their routine care, which is in line with the guidance from the Zambian Ministry of Health. The USG, through CDC, has supported the development of services to link TB and HIV care in the Livingstone district since 2004, including the training of staff, refurbishment of the TB clinic at the hospital, stocking of back up supplies and reagents and payment for counselor services.

The U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (Emergency Plan/PEPFAR) is committed to working in partnership with Ministries of Defense to fight HIV/AIDS. In Zambia, approximately 17 percent of the population was living with HIV/AIDS in 2005, with members of the military considered to be at high-risk for HIV infection.

To help prevent the spread of HIV in the Zambian Defense Force, the Emergency Plan supports two Defense Force drama troops that travel to military units with HIV prevention messages for soldiers and their families. Drama troops use behavior change communication strategies to reach audiences with culturally-appropriate HIV prevention messages. Song, drama, poetry and dance performances encourage abstinence, faithfulness and the correct and consistent use of condoms.

One drama troop member explained, “To the soldiers, drama and the performance are like a mirror, and soldiers are able to look at their lives through the plays that we present.” In particular, the performances help soldiers to consider the factors that put them at risk for HIV infection. Lt. Col. Banda noted, “As a soldier, first of all, we are trained to take risks. And, we live in a society where we are always in groups. So, it’s very easy for peer pressures (sic).”

Military members leave the performances with life-saving information about HIV prevention. As one drama troop member explained, “I want the soldiers to actually walk away with the message that abstinence, self control and discipline at all levels is most cardinal. ... It’s the biggest battle that is before mankind.” Soldiers also leave the performances with informational materials on HIV/AIDS, including resources on HIV prevention, stigma reduction, HIV counseling and testing, and antiretroviral treatment. Since 2003, the drama troops have visited the 69 Zambia Defense Forces facilities throughout the country.

Information Operations

We are engaged in a conflict of ideas and words. Today's information environment presents challenges within a global context where the battle space is characterized by immediacy and competition, multiple 24-hour news channels, Internet, new technologies, and adept adversaries. He who is first, sets the agenda. There are many vulnerable and susceptible audiences for whom perception often equals reality. Gaining and maintaining the information initiative can be a powerful weapon to defeat propaganda.

Information, as an instrument of power, is best when integrated for synergy. Our Information Operations (IO) must employ continuous activities that seek both short and long-term return on investment. IO must be a fundamental part of our outreach strategy that seeks unified Government effort with key partners and Host Nations to optimize disparate resources and maximize effects. We must send clear and synchronized messages and images to appropriately identified audiences, informed by knowledge of the indigenous population's cultural and religious sensitivities.

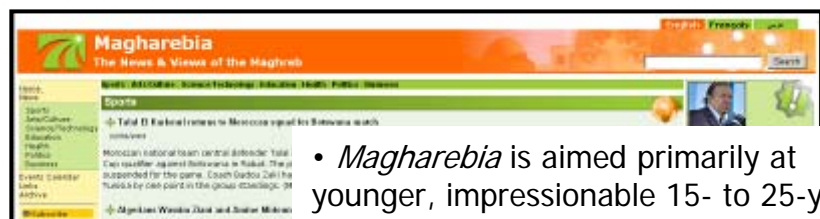


EUCOM Information Operations is tied to Theater Security Cooperation as the action vehicle (what we do). Our messages are tied to deeds that add credibility while cultivating partnerships. Humanitarian Assistance projects are enduring symbols of America's commitment. It is extremely important that HA events such as ground breaking and ribbon cutting ceremonies receive the proper visibility. These are opportunities to reiterate the Commander's themes for the country and the region. With sufficient

advance notice, our senior leaders are available to attend selected HA events and apply EUCOM's full Strategic Communication outreach capability including Public Affairs and Information Operations.



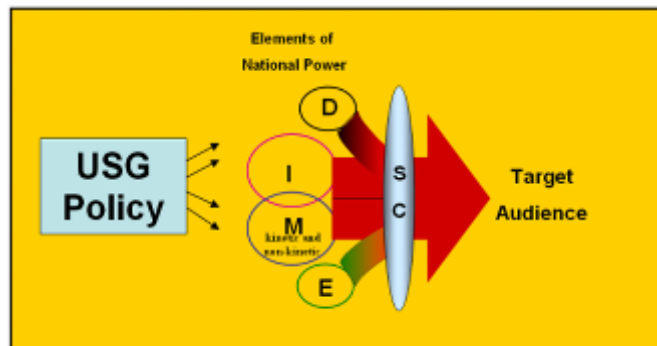
- *Southeast European Times* (SEET) publishes 6 days a week in 10 languages, providing in-depth coverage of local issues, tempered by a cross-regional perspective. www.setimes.com



- *Magharebia* is aimed primarily at younger, impressionable 15- to 25-year-olds and the key communicators who influence those young people in three languages. www.magharebia.com

Strategic Communication

Strategic Communication is defined as the focused United States Government effort to understand and engage key audiences to create, strengthen, or preserve conditions favorable for the advancement of United States Government interests, policies, and objectives through the use of coordinated programs, plans, themes, messages, and products synchronized with the actions of all instruments of national power. (JP 1-02, March 2007)



Public diplomacy and strategic communication should always strive to support our nation's fundamental values and national security objectives. All communication and public diplomacy activities should:

- Underscore our commitment to freedom, human rights and the dignity and equality of every human being;
- Reach out to those who share our ideals;
- Support those who struggle for freedom and democracy; and
- Counter those who espouse ideologies of hate and oppression.

We have established three strategic objectives to govern America's public diplomacy and strategic communication with foreign audiences:

- America must offer a positive vision of hope and opportunity that is rooted in our most basic values.
- With our partners, we seek to isolate and marginalize violent extremists who threaten the freedom and peace sought by civilized people of every nation, culture and faith.
- America must work to nurture common interests and values between Americans and peoples of different countries, cultures and faiths across the world.

Successful public diplomacy and strategic communication must address both mass audiences and specific target audiences. Certain media such as television, radio and the internet, as well as press and public affairs operations, reach a broad public. But public diplomacy efforts are also directed at narrower, more discrete groups, especially those that because of their expertise, stature, or leadership roles influence the decisions and opinions of others. Opinion leaders in foreign societies can be effective partners in advancing our broader public diplomacy goals. We need to tailor our public diplomacy and communication programs to specific audiences, using the most appropriate and effective media available.

Public diplomacy is, at its core, about making America's diplomacy public and communicating America's views, values and policies in effective ways to audiences across the world. Public diplomacy promotes linkages between the American people and the rest of the world by reminding diverse populations of our common interests and values. Some of America's most effective public diplomacy is communicated not through words but through our deeds, as we invest in people through education, health care and the opportunity for greater economic and political participation. Public diplomacy also seeks to isolate and marginalize extremists and their ideology. In all these ways, public diplomacy is "waging peace," working to bring about conditions that lead to a better life for people across the world and make it more difficult for extremism to take root. (U.S. National Strategy for Public Diplomacy and Strategic Communication, December 14, 2006)

Key Outreach Points of Contact

PROGRAM	COMMERCIAL	DSN
EUCOM J3 INFORMATION OPERATIONS (IO)		
IO Support to J4 HA ¹	49-711-680-4985	314-430-4985
MIST & Web Based Ops	49-711-680-4210	314-430-4210
Operation Assured Voice	49-711-680-7144	314-430-7144
Senior Leader Engagement Portal	49-711-680-8820	314-430-8820
EUCOM J4 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (HA)		
HIV/AIDS	49-711-680-4984	314-430-4984
Humanitarian Civic Assistance (HCA)	49-711-680-5303	314-430-5303
Humanitarian Assistance Other (HA-O)	49-711-680-5819	314-430-5819
Excess Property	49-711-680-8836	314-430-8836
EUCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS (PA)		
PA Officer	49-711-680- 8345	314-430-8345
PA Support to IO	49-711-680-6618	314-430-6618
EUCOM STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION (SC)		
Deputy Director	49-711-680-4986	314-430-4986
IO Support to SC	49-711-680-2423	314-430-2423
AFRICOM INFORMATION OPERATIONS		
Information Operations	49-711-729-4297	314-421-4297
AFRICOM HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE		
HA Branch Chief	49-711-729-4718	314-421-4718
AFRICOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS		
Public Affairs	49-711-729-4711	314-421-4711
AFRICOM STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION		
Office of Outreach	49-711-729-4731	314-421-4731

¹ Prepared this document.